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RUSSELL ERRETT, Editor.

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☞ Communications designed for publication should be addressed to the Editor.

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The Pittsburgh Commercial.

VOL. XIII. PITTSBURGH, TUESDAY MORNING, MARCH 21, 1876. NO. 167.

The Daily and Weekly Commercial NEWSPAPER DECISIONS.—1. Any one who takes paper regularly from the Postoffice—whether it is ordered in his name or another's—is responsible for subscription or not—is responsible for the payment.

2. If a person orders his paper discontinued, he must pay all arrearages, or the publisher may continue to send it until payment is made and collect the whole amount whether the paper is taken from the office or not.

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FIRST EDITION.

HARRISBURG.

PENNSYLVANIA LEGISLATURE

Both Houses Adjourned Till Thursday.

Bill Classifying Property Passed First Reading.

Pittsburgh Merchants Ask that the Pennsylvania Railroad Company be Investigated.

Special Dispatch to the Commercial.

HARRISBURG, PA., March 20, 1876.

SENATE.

A resolution was offered providing for the adjournment of the Senate from to-morrow (Tuesday), at one P. M. until Thursday morning next, at ten o'clock, which was agreed to.

Mr. Newmyer's bill classifying property for the purposes of taxation in cities of the second class, was called up by him and passed first reading.

The entire evening session was taken up by the passage of bills on first reading.

Adjourned.

HOUSE.

The House met at 8 P. M.

Mr. Huhn submitted a resolution appointing a committee of five to investigate the affairs of the Baltimore, Philadelphia and New York Railroad, which was referred to the Railroad Committee.

Mr. Jackson offered petitions against the repeal of the Iron Clad Liquor law of Mercer county.

Mr. Christy offered the following:

To the Honorable Senate and House of Representatives of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, in General Assembly met:

The petition of the undersigned, citizens of said Commonwealth, respectfully showeth that:

WHEREAS, The fundamental law of this State has been enacted for the purpose of affording the largest protection to its citizens, and the primary duty of lawmakers is to pass such acts and such measures as will enable them to protect themselves, themselves of the benefits, but to put themselves under the protection of the Constitution and laws of the State, and

WHEREAS, It is asserted, and within the knowledge of many, that charters which have been granted are being constantly and wilfully violated, and the authority of the State set at defiance, to the enrichment of the few and to the oppression of the many; and

WHEREAS, Many corporations, and notably the Pennsylvania Railroad Company, are combining with corporations outside of this State and conspiring among themselves to exact from citizens of the State rates of freight not only exorbitant in comparison, but unjust *per se*, by reason of which many millions of dollars have been lost to the citizens of the State and many thousands of them forced to idleness and consequent beggary; and

WHEREAS, These corporations under a delusion, declare that they are not bound to recognize the Constitution of this Commonwealth, and assuming to be outside the pale of constitutional law, are bringing ruin upon many producing, manufacturing and mercantile classes, and driving some of the most important branches of our industries through unnatural channels out of this State, to the great damage of a large majority of our citizens.

We therefore respectfully ask, that a committee of the Senate and House be appointed to investigate the workings of the Pennsylvania Railroad and its combinations and associations, and that said committee have authority to send for persons and papers by subpœna and compel attendance, and that they be empowered and instructed to issue writs of *quo warranto* and determine in a court of the said Pennsylvania Railroad Company under the Constitution of the Commonwealth, and if it be found that said corporation shall have been violating the Constitution or laws of this State, directly or indirectly, by its own motion or by aid of collateral parties, that then its charter or charter shall be declared forfeited; and, furthermore, that the inalienable rights of the citizens of this Commonwealth, as well as its Constitution and laws, shall be declared paramount to the charter of any corporation whatsoever. And your petitioners will ever pray," &c.

[Signed] L. PETERSON, JR. & CO.,
GEORGE A. KELLY & CO.,
WM. S. EVANS & CO.,
HOLDSHIP & IRWIN,
KING & COE,
J. C. KIRKPATRICK & CO.,
OLIVER MCCLINTOCK & CO.,
HUGUS & HACKS,
BRUSH & LYONS,
and many others.

The resolution was referred to the Railroad Committee.

Mr. Christy asked leave to read the following bill in place, but, objections being made, it lies over for the present:

Joint resolution providing for a special committee to make an investigation into the affairs of the Pennsylvania Railroad Company. The bill provides for a special committee of five members from each House to investigate said railroad so far as relates to its management, its combination with transportation companies and its unjust discrimination in the transportation of coal, grain, oil and other merchandise.

A large petition was offered asking for the repeal of the prohibitory law for North and South Fayette townships, Allegheny county.

Mr. Lusk offered a resolution providing for sessions of the House hereafter on Friday afternoons and Saturday mornings. As the resolution involves a change of the rules of the House, it has to lie over one day.

Mr. Foster offered a resolution that the House adjourn over from six P. M. to-morrow (Tuesday) until Thursday morning next, at 10 o'clock, to allow the Democrats to attend the State Convention at Lancaster on Wednesday. Agreed to.

Adjourned.

FIRE RECORD.

Charleston, S. C.—Loss $250,000—Hundreds of Persons Homeless.

CHARLESTON, March 20.—A fire broke out at three A. M., at the corner of King and Rogers alleys. No water being in the neighborhood and the wind blowing a gale from the southeast, the whole block from Columbus to Line streets on the east and west side of King street was soon destroyed. About seven o'clock the fire crossed Line street, sparks and embers being carried by the gale three quarters of a mile up the King street road. Houses, fences and farms along that road were burned. Heartrending scenes were witnessed, and to add to the confusion, bands of negro robbers sacked every house to which they could gain admittance. Later in the morning Mayor Cunningham took command and some order was restored. By half-past ten the fire had burned itself out. Hundreds of persons are homeless and penniless. The loss is at least $250,000, and very little insurance is reported. The boundaries of the burned district are on the south Columbus street and Vanderhorst alley, on the north the race course, on the east the South Carolina Railroad and on the west St. Philips and Percy streets.

Uhrichsville, O.—$15,000.

Special Dispatch to the Commercial.

DENNISON, O., March 20, 1876.

The residence of George W. Dawson, in Uhrichsville, was entirely destroyed by fire this afternoon. The fire was caused by a defective flue. Loss about $15,000.

The Whisky Trials.

CHICAGO, March 20.—B. A. Miller pleaded guilty to-day to two counts of the indictment which charge him with defrauding the revenue as a distiller. Rush & Fahimann, distillers, who will stand trial, had their cases put over till Wednesday.

ST. LOUIS, March 20.—The hearing of the motion for a new trial in the McKee case came up in the United States Court to-day, and was postponed till to-morrow, in consequence of the illness of Judge Treat and the absence from the city of two counsel in the case. If the motions in this and the Avery case are overruled, District Attorney Dyer will move that sentences be passed at once on all the persons convicted and those who pleaded guilty of defrauding the Government revenue. If they are sustained in either case, he will move the sentence of all persons not needed as witnesses.

Kittery Navy Yard Investigation.

BOSTON, March 20.—This evening's *Herald*, referring to the labors of the Naval Investigating Committee at the Kittery Navy Yard, says: "It can be stated on authority that the evidence taken before the committee fully sustains the charges against the institution made by Congressman Burleigh, of Maine, in the House last year. The report will not be made for six weeks or two months. It is asserted that it implicates certain parties in very questionable transactions, and shows astounding irregularities."

Mr. and Mrs. Marsh.

MONTREAL, March 20.—C. P. Marsh and wife left for New York to-day.

Buy White River
put up, now, in sealed bags. Best flour for the money in the United States.

XLIV. CONGRESS.

FIRST SESSION.

WASHINGTON, D. C., March 20, 1876.

SENATE.

Mr. WRIGHT said he desired to do what he thought he never should do. While he was confined to his room by illness last Thursday, the Senator from Pennsylvania had sent to the Chair a paper and had read a newspaper paragraph charging several Senators, himself among the number, with having private secretaries, paid for by the Government. For himself, he had no clerk appointed in the Indian Bureau for three years. There is no person there whom he had recommended. There was no person there who does any work for him, and he had no private secretary whatever. The only person who does any work with anything with which he is connected, is the Clerk to the Committee on Claims, who does the work of the committee.

Mr. WITHERS, from the Committee on Appropriations, reported House bill 2,585, to supply the deficiency for feeding the Sioux Indians. He moved to strike out of the bill the words one hundred thousand dollars and insert one hundred and fifty thousand dollars. The amendment was agreed to and the bill passed.

On motion of Mr. SHERMAN, the Senate took up and passed the Senate bill to regulate the transportation of bonded merchandise withdrawn from warehouses.

On motion of Mr. ALLISON, the Senate then took up for consideration the Senate bill providing for an agreement with the Sioux Nation in regard to a portion of their reservation and for other purposes. The matter was briefly discussed by Mr. HITCHCOCK, who said he was opposed to any further appropriation for these Indians or for another commission. There was one man out there now, General George H. Crooke, who was as able to make any agreement with these Indians as any commission that could be sent out to them. The debate was continued by Messrs. Bogy, Hamilton, Allison and Edmunds.

Mr. MORTON said he had heretofore, in this debate, hoping the bill would pass, but as it was quite evident that it could not, he would call up the regular order, the Senate bill No. 1, to provide for counting the votes for President and Vice President.

Mr. MERRIMON asked to offer an amendment to the pending bill, that the President shall appoint five army officers, not below the rank of colonel, in place of the five persons mentioned in the bill. Ordered printed.

Mr. MORTON offered a resolution that the Committee on Privileges and Elections have power to sit during the sessions of the Senate, while they are investigating the case of Senator Spencer. Agreed to.

The Senate bill No. 1, was then taken up, when Mr. RANDOLPH briefly addressed the Senate in support of his amendment, providing that should the two Houses of Congress, acting separately, fails to agree as to which is the true and valid return of a State, then and in that event only, the President of the Senate shall render a decision of the question, and such decision shall be in favor of the return of the State which shall have received a majority of all the votes cast in both Houses of Congress, considered in the subordinate Houses, had cast their votes in joint meeting assembled.

After debate, the CHAIR laid before the Senate the Military bill from the House, with a notification that the House fails to concur in its the amendments of the Senate. The Senate agreed to adhere to the amendments and ask a committee of conference. Messrs. Sargent, Cockrell and Harvey were appointed on the part of the Senate.

Pending discussion, the Senate went into executive session, and soon adjourned.

HOUSE.

Messrs. BANNING and SAYLER presented the petitions of various distillers of Ohio, Kentucky, Indiana and Illinois, protesting against any change in the present plan of collecting taxes. Referred.

Mr. WARD offered a resolution directing the Secretary of State to communicate the report of the special commission appointed to supervise the Commission to the Vienna Exposition. Adopted.

The SPEAKER called the States for bills, and the following were offered:

Mr. HOPKINS—To regulate commerce and prohibit unjust discriminations by common carriers.

Mr. TOWNSEND, of Pennsylvania—To amend the National Banking act.

Mr. TUCKER—To regulate the currency. He said it was presented at the request of distinguished citizens of Virginia.

Mr. CABELL—To reduce the tax on manufactured tobacco, and to repudiate the tax dealers and producers of leaf tobacco.

Mr. COOK—To provide for the payment to the State of Georgia for services in carrying United States mails.

Mr. HANNIS—To repeal the law providing that certified balances of the Commissioner of Customs and Deputy Collector of the Treasury shall not be revised or changed by heads of departments; also joint resolution of the Ohio Legislature asking the immediate release of Edward O'Meagher Condon.

Mr. EDDY—For the collection of postmasters in all cities and incorporated towns.

Mr. BUCHARD, of Wisconsin, by request—To secure, without compensation, the use of a specific basis.

Mr. DUNNELL—Memorial of the Legislature of Minnesota asking for the extension of time to settlers under the Timber Culture act; also asking Congress to protect settlers on certain public lands in Minnesota.

Mr. ATKINS moved to suspend the rules and pass a bill repealing a proviso of the act of the 14th January, 1875, for the resumption of specie payments, and authorize the Secretary of the Treasury to redeem and cancel United States notes and to sell United States bonds for the accomplishment of that purpose.

Mr. PAYNE desired to offer an amendment, but it was ruled by the SPEAKER that no amendment was in order.

Mr. HOLMAN called for the yeas and nays, and they were ordered.

The motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill was rejected—yeas 109, nays 108—not two-third in the affirmative. The following is the vote in detail:

YEAS.

Ainsworth,	Fort,	Oliver,	
Anderson,	Franklin,	Phelps,	
Ashe,	Foller,	Phillips, Mo.,	
Atkins,	Goode,	Phillips, Ks.,	
Baker, Ind.,	Goodin,	Poppleton,	
Banning,	Gunter,	Rice,	
Blackburn,	Hamilton, Ind.,	Reilly, John,	
Blount,	Harris, Ga.,	Reilly, Jas. B.,	
Bloom,	Harris, Va.,	Rice,	
Boone,	Harr ison,	Riddle,	
Bradford,	Hartridge,	Robbins, N. C.,	
Bright,	Haymond,	Robinson,	
Brown, Ky.,	Haymond,	Savage,	
Burchard, Wis.,	Hays,	Sayler,	
Cabell,	Hereford,	Scales,	
Caldwell, Ala.,	Herndon, Ala.,	Shanklin,	
Caldwell, Tenn.,	Holman,	Smith, Ga.,	
Campbell,	Hopkins,	Southard,	
Cannon,	House,	Sparks,	
Cate,	Hunter,	Springer,	
Caulfield,	Hunton,	Stevenson,	
Clarke, Ky.,	Hurd,	Stone,	
Clark, Mo.,	Hymun,	Terry,	
Clymer,	Jenks,	Tucker,	
Cochran,	Jones, Ky.,	VanVoorhees,	
Cook,	Kelley,	Vance, Ohio,	
Cowan,	Knott,	Vance, N. C.,	
Deball,	Landers, Ind.,	Waddell,	
Dibrell,	Lewis,	Wallace, Va.,	
Douglass,	Lynde,	Wallace, Pa.,	
Durham,	McFarland,	Wells, Mo.,	
Eden,	McMahon,	Whitborne,	
Egbert,	Milliken,	Williams, Ind.,	
Ellis,	Morgan,	Williams, Ala.,	
Evans,	Neal,	Yeaks,	
Faulkner,	New,	Young—109.	
Founey,			

NAYS.

Bagby,	Hendee,	Robbins, Pa.,	
Bagley, G. A.,	Sampson,	Ryan,	
Bagley, J. H.,	Hewitt, N. Y.,	Schlencher,	
Baker, N. Y.,	Hoar,	Schumaker,	
Ballou,	Hoge,	Sener,	
Banks,	Hooker,	Singleton,	
Barnum,	Hubbell,	Smith,	
Bass,	Huribut,	Smith, Pa.,	
Beebe,	Joyce,	Starkweather,	
Blaine,	Kehr,	Stenger,	
Blair,	Kimball,	Stowell,	
Bliss,	Landers, Conn.,	Tarbox,	
Bradley,	Lapham,	Thomp on,	
Brown, Ks.,	Leavenworth,	Thornburgh,	
Burchard, Ill.,	Luttrell,	Throckmorton,	
Caswell,	Lynch,	Townsend, Pa.,	
Chittenden,	Marsh,	Tufts,	
Conger,	McCrary,	Walker, N. Y.,	
Cox,	McDill,	Wallace, S. C.,	
Crapo,	Metcalfe,	Ward,	
Cutler,	Miller,	Warren,	
Dennison,	Money,	Wheeler,	
Donnell,	Monroe,	Whitehouse,	
Durand,	Morris,	Whiting,	
Eames,	Nash,	Wike,	
Ely,	Norton,	Willard,	
Farwell,	O'Brien,	Williams, N. Y.,	
Foster,	Page,	Williams, A. S.,	
Freeman,	Paine,	Mich.,	
Frost,	Pierce,	Williams, Wis.,	
Fry,	Piper,	Williams, Del.,	
Garfield,	Plaisted,	Williams, W. H.,	
Hale,	Potter,	Mich.,	
Hamilton, N. J.,	Powell,	Willis,	
Hancock,	Platt,	Wilson, Ia.,	
Harlborgh,	Randall,	Wood, Pa.—104.	
Hathorn,	Reagan,		

Mr. NEAL from the Committee on the District of Columbia, reported the House bill to-day for the business of that committee.

Mr. RANDALL raised a question of consideration, but the SPEAKER ruled that the Committee on the District of Columbia had an absolute right to report bills to-day in session.

Mr. RANDALL intimated that his object was to allow Mr. Payne to have a vote of the House on the financial bill which he had been authorized to report.

Mr. NEAL declined to yield his right, although Messrs. Cox, Springer and other members endeavored to induce him to do so.

The business of the District Committee was then proceeded with.

Mr. WARD presented the petition of John Jay, Thomas McElrath, L. Grand, B. Gannon, Theo. Roosevelt, Jackson S. Schultz and H. Garretson, asking for the publication of the papers relating to the American Department of the Vienna Exposition.

Adjourned.

NEWS SUMMARY.

BY TELEGRAPH.

Probabilities for To-Day—Partly cloudy and clearing colder weather, northerly and westerly winds and rising barometer.

John Nazro & Co., a large hardware firm of Milwaukee, have failed.

The steamers State of Virginia, from Glasgow; Italy, from Liverpool, and Mosel, from Bremen, have arrived at New York.

By the sinking of the brigantine off Barnegat, N. J., on Saturday, the captain, his wife and the first mate were drowned.

On Sunday, the powder mill of Thomas C. Brainerd, three miles south of York, Pa., exploded, and the entire building was wrecked. No loss of life reported.

Charley Clark, a boy fourteen years old, attempted to hang himself with his comforter in the Cleveland jail yesterday, but was cut down before life was extinct. He did not want to go back to the Reform Farm which he had lately escaped.

The Massachusetts Judicial Court, full bench, has overruled the exceptions in the case of Thomas Piper, convicted of the murder of Mabel H. Houng in the beffry of the Warren Avenue Baptist Church of Boston, and judgment will be pronounced on the verdict.

A memorial has been signed by the presiding officers of both branches of the Massachusetts Legislature and the members, nearly unanimously, irrespective of party, asking the United States Senate to confirm the nomination of Hon. R. H. Dana, Jr., as Minister to England. A paper was also forwarded, signed by all the leading members of the Boston bar, of both parties, headed by Sidney Bartlett, and ex-Chief Justice George Tyler Bigelow, complimenting the President on the selection of Mr. Dana, and urging the Senate to confirm him.

Major Dunlap, living about five miles from Chillicothe, was kicked in the breast by a colt on Tuesday, and almost instantly killed.

SECOND EDITION.

WASHINGTON.

Mr. Dana's Chances of Confirmation.

Secretary Fish Interests Himself in the Matter.

A Bitter Conflict in Prospect

ACTION ON TEXAS PACIFIC DEFERRED

Hopkins' Bill Against Discrimination by Common Carriers.

Pennsylvania Delegation Offer a Dinner to Senator Cameron.

Secretary Bristow Explains His Connection with the Mule Claim.

Special Dispatch to the Commercial.

WASHINGTON, D. C., March 20, 1876.

Mr. Dana's Chances.

The high-toned letter written by Mr. Dana, reversing his decision in reference to making a statement in person before the Committee on Foreign Relations to-morrow, is interpreted as an open insult. The President has positively declined to withdraw the nomination. To-day the Secretary of State was on the floor of the Senate and had a protracted conference with Senator Cameron, the Chairman of the committee, and Senators Morton, Conkling and others, urging favorable action upon Mr. Dana's nomination and reiterating the determination of the President not to withdraw it. The committee will meet again to-morrow and, in view of the unanimity which characterized their action originally, it is very probable that an adverse report will be made. The two Senators from Massachusetts, Boutwell and Dawes, both favor Mr. Dana's confirmation, though Mr. Dawes does not approve his letter. If the committee should make an adverse report, the chances of Mr. Dana's confirmation would not be very flattering, though, as observed to-day, it is difficult to confront the weight of the Administration. The Democrats will likely to vote against him on the international feature of Mr. Dana's pilfered annotations being bent into conformity with Seward's notions. In the event of the Democrats taking this action, the rejection is certain. There is at present every indication of a bitter conflict.

The Texas Pacific.

The Senate Committee on Pacific Railroads to-day decided to defer action upon the Texas Pacific Railroad until some future time. The bill was reported at the same decision several weeks since.

A Dinner to Senator Cameron.

Representatives Wallace, Ross and Freeman to-day waited upon Senator Cameron and, on behalf of the Republicans of the Pennsylvania delegation, tendered him a dinner in honor of the seventy-fifth birthday and in recognition of his long and faithful public service. The venerable Senator cheerfully appreciation of the compliment, and will attend.

The Government at the Centennial.

The House Committee on Appropriations to-day voted against allowing the balance of the $971,000 called for last year to enable the Executive Department to make a suitable display at the Centennial. The least amount asked for was $325,000. The Democrats voted against the appropriation, and the Republicans, with Randall, for it.

Discriminations by Common Carriers.

The bill introduced by Mr. Hopkins today to prevent unjust discriminations by common carriers, was founded on the complaint of the oil men of Pittsburgh that the railroads discriminate against them in the carrying freight; that they can ship to Parkersburg, and thence reach the seaboard cheaper than by the more direct routes.

WASHINGTON, D. C., March 20, 1876.

PACIFIC RAILWAYS.

The Senate Pacific Railway Committee had a full meeting this morning, and took into consideration the proposition looking to the construction of the Pacific Railroad on the thirty-second parallel of latitude. Very warm interest was manifested by the committee in the Texas Pacific Railroad project as presented by Colonel Scott; also an alternate proposition of Senator Hamilton, to build such road without any further subsidy than a land grant. Some progress was made and interchanges of opinion took place, with the conclusion to defer further action until the next regular meeting of the committee on Monday next, when it is expected final action will be taken.

SECRETARY BRISTOW EXPLAINS THE MULE CLAIM.

Secretary Bristow voluntarily appeared before the Committee on Expenditures in the War Department to-day and made a statement under oath in relation to a letter which appeared in the New York *Herald* on Saturday, dated Louisville, February 11, in relation to a mule case. He said he had reason to believe that the letter was not written in Louisville, but in Washington, having been advised some weeks past that the statement would be made. He ought to say that he did not deem it any part of his duty to undertake the preparation of the case, the duties in which he was engaged being merely professional in the way of argument; he never had the slightest reason to suspect the fairness of the case or the integrity of the party in whose behalf it was prosecuted; the parties were citizens of Kentucky, residing in Clark county, removed from his place of residence; one of the claimants, Harvison Thompson, has since deceased; he had intimate and pleasant relations with him, having served with him in the Kentucky Senate. The Secretary was here in the spring or summer of 1873, on business, having no connection at that time with the Government, having resigned the office of Solicitor General in 1872. Ben. B. Groome engaged him to argue the case, and gave him a statement of it, saying that his firm were engaged in stock raising and had invested much money in the purchase of mules, but, owing to the collapse of the rebellion, the Government refused to take the mules; in consequence of this, the firm had sustained a heavy loss, having invested $200,000 on account of the purchase. Groome said they would pay him no fee if they did not succeed in procuring the payment of the claim, or at all events they would pay him only a small fee. The Secretary said to Groome that it was not his habit to accept contingent fees, but in view of the dilemma in which the firm found themselves and the desire to have his professional services, he said he would argue the case before the Court of Claims, or before the Supreme Court if it should go there, on Groome's agreeing to pay his expenses incurred in coming here and a compensation of ten per cent. in the event of the claim being allowed by the Court of Claims. Thomas J. D. Fuller, a resident of Maine in Washington, former member of Congress, and who was Auditor and Comptroller under Buchanan's administration, prepared the case. The Secretary took Fuller's brief of the case, and on that brief he prepared his legal argument. The only questions raised there were on points of law. Mr. Goforth, Assistant Attorney General, made no question as to the facts, which seemed to be conclusive. The facts were that the firm had the mules at the proper points to be shipped, and some of them were on the train at the time the Government refused to take them; there was, as a consequence, a sudden depreciation in the value of the mules; the low price at which they were compelled to sell them was incontrovertible, and even Chief Justice Drake, who dissented, did so only on a question of law.

There were involved in the case two interesting questions of law. The majority of the court gave judgment for $168,700. The Secretary believed then, and now believes that the judgment was right. The case was argued by him in October, 1873, and judgment was rendered January 5, 1874. The case had been referred to the Court of Claims by the War Department, and payment was made from the fund under the control of that Department. The Secretary had nothing more to do with the case than to argue it before the Court of Claims. Groome paid him, as a fee, $10,870. The Secretary said that since the publication in the *Herald* he had procured the original papers on which the payment was made, which he read to the committee. One of the papers showed that Attorney General Williams informed the Secretary of War that no appeal would be taken from the judgment of the Court of Claims to the Supreme Court. The money was paid to John A. Thompson, Ben. B. Groome and others. The Secretary repeated that he engaged in the case only professionally, for which he received pay as already stated. What compensation Fuller received, he did not know. The statement that the Secretary received half of the claim, was unqualifiedly false. He repeated that the claim impressed him with its being meritorious and just.

Secretary Bristow, on cross-examination, replied that at the time he argued the case he had no connection whatever with the Government, having before that resigned the office of Solicitor General. He did not regard the fee of ten per cent. as unusual; he had been told he fee was not up to the usual maximum. In conclusion, the Secretary intimated that he would be very glad if the committee could underake to ascertain how such stories as that in the *Herald* obtained circulation.

The Chairman replied that they could not undertake such work at this time, but they would be happy during the examination to have such information disclosed, and would be glad to have the Secretary's cooperation in this or any other such case.

Secretary Bristow said that since the publication of the letter in the *Herald* he had made inquiry and ascertained that Groome, who is a stock raiser and importer of blooded stock, is now abroad. The Secretary then retired and the committee took a recess.

NOMINATIONS BY THE PRESIDENT.

The President nominated Joel D. Harvey Collector of Internal Revenue for the First district of Illinois; Wm. H. Doolittle, of Minnesota, Assistant Commissioner of Patents; Philip Arnholt, of Missouri, Pension Agent at St. Joseph, and John M. Coghlan, of California, Chief Justice of Utah Territory.

THE SPENCER INVESTIGATION.

The investigation concerning Senator Spencer's election was continued by the Senate committee to-day. The examination of Robert Barber, begun on Saturday, was continued at considerable length and developed nothing of interest. The committee announced that the evidence offered to show what means were used to prevent members of the Court House Legislature from going over to the Capitol Monday and thus breaking the former's quorum, is not within the range of testimony that can properly be taken by this committee.

IMPORTANT DECISIONS OF UNITED STATES SUPREME COURT.

The United States Supreme Court this afternoon delivered an unanimous opinion reversing the decision of the California Supreme Court in the so-called "Chinese case" and ordering the woman Chy Lung to be released from the custody in which she is held under the foreign passenger act of that State. This necessitates sustains the ruling made by Justice Field in similar cases brought before him in the United States Circuit Court. The Supreme Court accompanies its decision with severe criticism of the law of California on this subject.

A decision was also rendered in the case involving the constitutionality of the New York passenger laws. The Court declares that the law is unconstitutional, and that the law prescribing conditions as to the landing of passengers from abroad can be constitutionally made by any other power than the Legislature of the State.

In the case of Mrs. Gaines *vs.* Fuentz, Justice Field delivered the opinion of the court, reversing the decision of the Supreme Court of Louisiana, and holding that under the Popular Prejudice act of 1867, where the suit is between citizens of different States, the cause should be removed to the Circuit Courts of the United States, regardless of the subject matter in controversy.

It was also decided that the present county of Laramie, in Wyoming Territory, is responsible for the entire debt contracted by it previous to the segregation from it of two other counties. This case has excited much interest in the Territory, as it is understood to involve the same question that is now in controversy between the States of Virginia and West Virginia as to the liability of the latter for a portion of the debt incurred by the old State when it comprehended the whole of the territory that was subsequently divided between them.

POSTAL STRAW BIDS—TESTIMONY OF MR. BARLOW CONTINUED—FAT LOCK CONTRACT.

Bradley Barlow, of the firm of Barlow & Sanderson, was again under examination by the House of Representatives Committee to-day. He testified that the firm had, in some instances, last year, bought off lower bidders for mail contracts, in order to obtain them at the firm's higher figures, but denied that any money had ever been paid or loaned by him or his partners to any official in Postoffice Department. He admitted that he had loaned considerable sums, not exceeding $20,000 in the aggregate, to General Morgan L. Smith, brother of Hon. Green Smith, then Second Assistant Postmaster General, but swore that these loans were not made for the purpose of influencing the latter. He gave some details about the loans, and also had secured certain valuable contracts last year. He paid to Grant & Co., of California, to Cortelyou, Beekman, of Oregon, and to a Mr. Blanchard certain sums of money, dollars to draw their bids for service between Redding, California, and Roseburgh, Oregon, and he paid Governor Thompson, of Idaho, $1,500 for relinquishing his lower bid on the long route from Dallas, Oregon, to Kelton, Utah.

At the afternoon session of the House Postal Committee, Mr. Barlow swore that he never made any improper suggestion to any Government official, and never authorized the expenditure of any money he gave or loaned money, to convey any such suggestion to a Government official. He had employed Mr. Earl to act as an attorney for him before the Department during his absence from Washington. He admitted that the fact that Earl had formerly been a law partner of Postmaster General Creswell partly influenced him in making his selection of an attorney, on account of the latter's facilities of access to Creswell and his ability to obtain information relating to his interest, but he paid him less than $5,000 in all for his services. His employment commenced during the summer to hold the office of Assistant Postmaster General.

The committee also examined Henry L. Johnson, Chief of the Straw Bag Division. He testified that several years ago a contract was awarded to Mix & Co. to furnish locks, and that after they employed ex-Senator Postmaster General Earl as their attorney, they secured an increase in price, which amounted, during the term of the contract and its extension, to $30,000 additional expenditure by the Government. He said the price was increased on the basis of certain changes and improvements.

REVENUE COLLECTOR AT CHICAGO.

The Senate to-day confirmed the nomination of Joel D. Harvey, Collector of Internal Revenue for the First district of Illinois, vice Webster, deceased.

FOURTEEN TONS OF SILVER TO ARRIVE FROM CALIFORNIA—TWO MILLIONS OF FRACTIONAL CURRENCY IN THE TREASURY—THE MONTHLY REPORT.

The Treasury Department will receive during the present week, from San Francisco, fourteen tons of silver coin, in anticipation of the period for commencing the circulation of silver. This will amount to a half million. The amount of silver in the vaults of the Treasury here, at this time, is less than $50,000. Orders were received at the Department to-day from various points for $120,000 of fractional currency, and that amount will be shipped to-morrow. There are $2,000,000 of fractional currency still in the vaults, though none has been printed since the middle of last month. Since that time the requisitions upon the Treasury from banks and Government offices requesting to be supplied with fractional currency, have amounted to about $3,000,000.

BILL TO UTILIZE PRODUCTS OF GOLD AND SILVER MINING.

The bill to utilize the products of gold and silver mining in the United States, introduced by Mr. Banks, provides that the Secretary of the Treasury shall establish in the great mining districts of gold and silver additional depositories and reliniries, and receive from the miners and owners gold and silver, to be coined upon certificate of the Government assayer, and issue certificates of deposit therefor, payable to bearer and for such amounts as depositors may desire, and, when issued for more than five hundred dollars in one certificate, to be made payable to order. Each certificate shall bear interest in turn of the amount of gold and silver called for by the certificate, and shall be a legal tender in all transactions. The Government is to be liable for the return of the of gold and silver, and may become the owner thereof by obtaining certificates through purchase or redemption. The Secretary is also authorized to issue silver in full value certificates on coin that is now, or may hereafter be, in the Treasury, reserving coin for their redemption.

FARMING POST TRADERSHIPS.

Before the Committee on Expenditures in the War Department, to-day, J. J. Fisher, partner with Evans, post trader at Fort Sill, testified that the firm paid Caleb P. Marsh at the rate of $12,000 a year for two years and a half, and $6,000 a year thereafter until April, 1875. Marsh never told him that the Secretary of War had any information concerning the contracts. James Tomlinson, brother-in-law of Belknap, testified that he was appointed post trader at Camp Maxwell. His brother was his partner. They gave up the place because it yielded but little profit. He paid no money to any person, directly or indirectly, for the tradership.

TELEGRAPHIC PERSONALS.

It is authoritatively denied that the President ever saw the Attorney General's celebrated letter to the district attorneys until it was published.

Victor Emanuel has accepted the resignation of the Italian Ministry, but requested them to retain their posts till their successors are appointed.

Ex-Senator Stewart will appear and testify in the Emma mine investigation today. Ex-Minister Schenck is not expected to appear before the committee till to-morrow.

Gold in Pittsburgh.

The names of those finding gold dollars in the Gold Soap will soon be published.

☞ *Advertisements on this page, under the several heads of* WANTED, FOR SALE, FOR RENT, *&c., will be inserted at tranient rates only*—TEN CENTS *per line for each insertion. No advertisement less than* FIFTY CENTS.

WANTED.

WANTED—TO RENT—A SMALL house of five or six rooms. Address, stating location and rent, A. M., this office.

WANTED—BOILERMAKERS—SOME first class Boilermakers. Apply immediately to CONNELLY BROS., Petrolia, Butler county, Pa.

WANTED—AN OCCUPANT FOR AN elegant, large second-story front room, with board, at 308 Penn avenue, between Ninth and Tenth streets.

WANTED—EVERYBODY TO USE Abel's Vermin Exterminator. It has no equal for banishing Rats, Mice and Roaches. Sold by all druggists.

WANTED—A BOOKKEEPER WHOSE evenings are unoccupied, wishes a set of books to write up. References from present employers and others. Address Box F, Commercial office.

WANTED—AN ACTIVE MAN—With some capital, to take the general agency for a staple article used by everybody. A permanent cash business in a monopoly. Address DREEWICH MANUF'G CO., 76 Reade street, N. Y.

WANTED—MORTGAGES—AT ONCE.

1 of $3,000, 2 or 3 years.
2 of $5,000, 2 or 3 years each.
1 of $1,500, 3 years.
2 of $1,000, 2 or 3 years each.
3 of $500, 2 or 3 years each.

THOS. K. PETTY,
136 Fourth avenue.

FOR SALE.

FOR SALE—THREE SMALL HOUSES in the Twelfth ward, cheap. Address OWNER, Box 14, this office.

FOR SALE—LEATHER AND RUBBER Belting, Hose and Oils of every description, by THORP & CO., No. 144 Water street.

FOR SALE—ENGINE—A SMALL second-hand Engine and Boiler will be sold very low. Apply to CULMER SPRING CO., corner Twenty-sixth and Liberty streets.

FOR SALE—TWELVE NEW AND second-hand Engines, 8 Portables, 6 second-hand Engine Lathes, 1 Planer. T. CARLIN, corner of Lacock and Sandusky streets, Allegheny.

FOR SALE—CHEAP, ON THE LINE of the Pennsylvania Railroad, near Rospburg, 4 houses; also, 2 fine brick houses, near Dallas station. The above property can be had cheap and on reasonable terms.

FOR SALE—A CARRIAGE—A TWO-HORSE Close Bodied Carriage in good order; it is large, strong and well calculated for livery purposes; will be sold cheap. Inquire of J. K. MOORHEAD, 92 Diamond street.

FOR SALE—ENGINES AND BOILERS —New and Second-hand, of all sizes, Stationary and Portable, from 3 to 100 horse power, now on hand. JAMES HILL & CO., corner Marion avenue and P. C. & Y. R. R., Allegheny.

FOR SALE—LARGE STOCK OF NEW and good SECOND HAND BOILERS in complete order. County Inspector's certificate of test with each boiler. Also, 1 Second-hand Engine, 20 inch stroke. West Point Boiler Works, No. 12 Water street. H. MYLER, Successor to WATSON & MUNROE.

FOR SALE—ENGINES—ONE 12x24 Engine and Boiler, governor, tank, &c., in complete order; price $350. One 8x15 Engine with governor, pumps, &c.; price $100. One 10-Horse Portable Engine and Boiler; price $275. Several smaller Engines at very low prices. PERRY DOUDS, New Castle, Pa.

FOR SALE—THE HAWKIN'S PATENT Improved Blower, for Bolting Mills, Forges, Furnaces, Cupolas, &c. The best and cheapest made. Also, a full stock of Set and Cap Screws, Gauges, Steam Whistles, Oils, Packing, Injectors' Supplies, generally. M. B. COCHRAN & CO., 121 Liberty

The Commercial.

TUESDAY, MARCH 21, 1876.

THE exhibition of real strength is never grotesque. Distortion is the agony of weakness. It is the dislocated mind whose movements are spasmodic. CLYMER is Helsterical.

THE Akron (Ohio) *Beacon* has built the following pyramid of Democratic Presidential aspirants:

TILDEN,
Railroad Leech.
HENDRICKS,
Miscellaneous Swindler.
PENDLETON,
Claim Agent Extraordinary.

THAT miserable free trade abortion, known as the MORRISON tariff bill, will come up in the House to-day and drag along somehow or other, unless those who are opposed to it put their foot down on it at once and finally, instead of keeping the manufacturing and mercantile interests of the country in suspense.

GENERAL SCHENCK, late United States Minister to Great Britain, will appear before the House Committee on Foreign Relations to-day, for the purpose of testifying concerning his connection with the "Emma mine" business. There does not seem to be any reason for believing that he was in the confidence of the operators. He was probably duped by them, and made, unconsciously, to act as a decoy duck, but he certainly had no business to mix himself up in any stock-jobbing schemes whatever, while representing the Government in a diplomatic capacity.

THAT was a neat retort of one of the brethren at a down-east religious meeting the other day, who, after listening to a powerful homily from another religious brother on wickedness in high places, in which the speaker declared that the Administration had stolen and squandered one-half of the public property, replied: "I was pleased with the remarks of the brother who just sat down, and bless the Lord for the Republican Administration, for if it had been a Democratic Administration in power, they would have stolen the whole; nothing would have been left."

UNDETERRED by the ludicrous capsizing of its prophetic cockle-shell by the New Hampshire tidal wave, the Boston *Post* the next day once more launched its frail bark on the troubled sea of political foretelling. Speaking of the Democratic nominations in Rhode Island, it said:

"The party has selected in General Cooke a man to carry its banner in this campaign who will come out of the fight with a very creditable showing."

Almost before the impression of the *Post*, containing these cheery words, was dry, the nominee had declined the honor of being slaughtered in the interests of a barren ideality. The predictions of the *Post* are deliciously funny.

THAT able scientific English journal, *Nature*, protests loudly against the mischievous niggardliness of our Democratic House of Representatives. Referring to the rumor that the publications of Professor HAYDEN'S geological survey of the Territories are likely to be discontinued by these undiscriminating partisans of "retrenchment," it says:

If this step be carried out, it will be a serious loss to the scientific men of Europe, as well as America. The discoveries which have been made by the staff under Professor Hayden's direction are of the highest value, both from a scientific and a commercial point of view, and the liberality with which they have been circulated in Europe by the American Government, has earned the gratitude of all who care for the advancement of knowledge. We trust that the rumor is untrue. If it be true, we hope that a voice of remonstrance will go forth from Europe.

IT is now about time for the preachments over the wickedness and extravagance of society in Washington to cease. It is probable that, upon the whole, people average about as well there as they do in New York and Philadelphia, or other large cities. The fact is that the vice of fast living has infested the whole land. The farmer who dresses his boys and girls beyond his means is equally culpable with the Cabinet minister who tries to live at the rate of $20,000 on an income of $10,000. Everyone is more or less guilty. We have all been trying to get rich too fast, and living beyond our means, or falling down on our knees before some golden calf, which, indeed, is the weakness of a large class who cannot get money themselves—groveling before the successful thieves who become millionaires. But it is never too late to mend; and true reform, like true charity, always begins at home. It is time to take a reef in our flowing criticism.

THE Brooklyn *Union* understands that the men whom KILBOURN of the "real estate pool" is trying to protect are ex-Secretary BELKNAP, Judge MCARTHUR, of the Supreme Court of the District, and ex-Congressmen CHARLES ELDREDGE, of Wisconsin, and PIERCE M. B. YOUNG, of Georgia. Neither the President, nor any member of his family, is suspected of any interest in the conspiracy. This is gratifying, but no matter who may be hurt in the pending investigations, they should be prosecuted to exhaustion. That half of the Democrats who howl so loudly over "Republican corruption," are thieves or defenders of thieves, does not alter the moralities of the case one whit. For the Republican party there is but one course to pursue—and that is to push every corruptionist to the wall. But the Democrats must by no means be permitted to select the rogues to be punished and let whatever rascals they choose go free. The Republican party proposes to hew squarely to the line, no matter in whose face the chips may fly.

BABCOCK'S brother, Surveyor General of Kansas, is reported to have stated on Saturday, with reference to his alleged connection with the post traderships at Fort Sully, that "when all the facts in the case are known it will be found that the transaction was purely of a business nature, and cannot in any way be made to reflect upon himself, DUBRE, PECK, or the Administration." We hope so, but we are extremely sceptical about it. It is daily becoming more and more evident that President GRANT has been used by many bad men around him, not least among whom were his brother ORVILLE and his Private Secretary, and it is also to be feared that some of them still exercise considerable influence over him. General BABCOCK has been virtually proved guilty of purloining and publishing a private letter of the Attorney General's, and yet he is kept in one of the most important offices in Washington, that of Commissioner of Public Buildings. Some of the President's recent appointments have been creditable enough, but a man ought not to wait for his cloak to be made until it begins to rain.

A WRITER in the New York *Bulletin*, speaking of recent developments at Washington, says:

One of the great public minds of Rome—Seneca—saw this same state of things, for, said he, "The old moralities are gone; we have no longer the choice whether we will be slaves, but only *whose* slaves we shall be." The worst of it is, however, that our public men have had to be slaves so long that an independence like that of Gladstone or Minghetti is with us almost impossible.

Such lugubrious utterances as these are utterly unworthy of any honorable citizen of this Republic. The times are not dreary; the men who live are not degenerated. The capital stock of our wisdom, happiness and virtue has steadily increased. He who, because of exceptional cases of fatal error and wrong, consigns his own age or heritage to decay, shows only the ignorance of the truth of history, and his distrust of the Invisible workings in all progressive good. The most depraving and fatal influence that can possibly work through a community is the allowance, as if unquestioned, of a prevailing decay of public and private virtue. Our brightest hope is in disbelieving that, as our noblest security is in disproving it.

IT is true that opinion touching religious doctrine is entirely a matter of personal relation with which every man must decide for himself, and that no man can impose faith upon another man any more than a full-blown rose can be imposed upon a stem—and yet we doubt, somewhat, the permanency of the results anticipated from the "ideal" Church which Professor SWING, of Chicago, has just organized. At present the great hall in which the services are held is packed every Sunday to its utmost capacity, many standing and more going away for lack of room. His essays—they can hardly be called sermons—as reported in the Chicago papers—are wonderfully beautiful and elevating in tone, and yet they carefully avoid any allusion to "doctrine" or "dogma," saint and sinner finding equal enjoyment in listening to their mellifluous periods. It is all sweetness and light in the fold, and yet it is problematical whether there is real power and endurance in his work. Most men have some positive beliefs, and the principal strength of the various religious denominations lies in the fact that their dogmas form the nucleus for active, vigorous minds to rally about and defend. It will be interesting to watch the final outcome of this novel departure in methods of spiritual usefulness.

SOME weeks ago we condensed from a lengthy article in the Chicago *Tribune* an account of a new Chicago invention for the consumption of smoke in coal burning, and the estimated saving in cost of carrying on any manufacturing business, as well as in the consumption of fuel for house purposes. It was shown in the article referred to, that with the use of the patented device for consuming smoke there was a great possibility that soft coal could be used as economically as anthracite, with no more annoyance from smoke and soot. The same paper now gives the results of a prolonged series of experiments instituted to show the exact comparative value of soft coal as between the several varieties, and also between the soft and hard coal. All the experiments were made at the city water works, under the boilers of which the patent device for consuming smoke had been applied. The *Tribune* says:

"The trials were begun February 19, and continued to the 24th of the same month, or five full days, with Laurel Hill soft coal. This variety costs in this market $5 50 per ton. In the five days there was consumed 416,270 pounds, and with this 200,492,439 gallons of water were raised. In order to get at a very close test of the amount of water converted into steam by each kind of coal, a water meter was attached to one boiler, and the fuel used under that was weighed separately and compared with the amount of coal consumed. In the five days' test with Laurel Hill the meter showed that 19,730 cubic feet of water had been vaporized with 140,990 pounds of coal. The cubic foot of water weighs near enough 62 pounds for purposes of calculation, and therefore it appears that 1,223,660 pounds of water were raised by 140,990 pounds of this kind of coal, or 8.7 pounds of water for each one of coal.

Having gotten the record of Laurel Hill, the persons having the matter in charge proceeded to experiment with the soft coal of this State, and began February 24th to use Minonk coal. The experiments lasted through February 28th; but, since there was no record of the 26th, the figures are given for four days. During that time 410,860 pounds of Minonk coal were used, and 157,285,446 gallons of water raised. Taking as before the showing made by the boiler with water meter attached, and it appears that under it 113,370 pounds of coal were burned, and 12,168 cubic feet of water vaporized thereby. Reducing the water to pounds and calculating as in the previous case, the result would be to show 6.6 pounds of water converted into steam for each pound of coal burned. This coal costs $3 60 per ton, and consequently it appears that to raise each million gallons costs $4 76—more than half the cost of anthracite.

February 29 and March 1, Wilmington, Ill., coal was used, but in this case the record was complete for only the latter day. On that day 115,400 pounds of coal were used and 40,091,562 gallons of water were raised. The water meter showed 2 695 cubic feet, or 167,090 pounds of water converted into steam by 28,200 pounds of coal, or 5 9 pounds of water for each pound of coal. This coal cost $3 50 per ton, and the cost of raising each 1,000,000 gallons of water was, therefore, $5 04.

March 2 and 3 Laurel Hill nut coal was used, but the records are complete only for the first-named day, when 91,780 pounds were used to raise 40,137,784 gallons of water. The test with the water meter showed 3,669 cubic feet, or 199,278 pounds of water vaporized by 35,090 pounds of coal, which would give seven pounds to each pound of coal. This coal cost $4 75, and the price for raising each 1,000,000 gallons of water was, therefore, $5 43.

The next two days, March 4 and 5, the Shawnee coal from the Baltimore and Ohio road was used and 182,020 pounds were consumed in raising 77,277,558 gallons of water. The meter showed that 52,880 pounds of coal converted 6,235 cubic feet, or 386,570 pounds of water, into steam. This would give 7.4 pounds of water for each pound of coal burned. This coal cost $4 90 a ton, and the expense of raising a million gallons of water with it was therefore $5 77.

In order to show the comparative economy of soft and hard coal, the record of March 6 and 7, when Lackawanna was used, is added. During this time 181,000 pounds of coal were used, and the amount of water raised was 81,171,797 gallons. The meter record showed 6,759 cubic feet, or 419,658 pounds of water, were turned into steam by the consumption of 52,780 pounds of coal, or 7.9 pounds of water per pound of coal. The cost of the anthracite was eight dollars per ton, and the cost of raising each million feet of water was therefore eight dollars and ninety-two cents, or nearly a third as much as when Illinois coal was used."

The economical results of these experiments may, without exaggeration, be termed extraordinary; and, in view of the additional fact that an almost perfect consumption of smoke is effected, the invention would seem destined to general adoption in manufacturing establishments where bituminous coal is used.

THE foreign commerce of New York, last week, was: Merchandise imports, $8,314,247; produce exports, $3,835,594, and specie exports, $1,140,372. The total imports since the first of January were $73,995,194, against $82,004,671 in 1875, and $88,108,851 in 1874. The exports of produce were $51,152,653, against $49,730,342 in 1875, and $57,501,948 in 1874, and the total exports of specie were $10,765,826, against $15,047,093 in 1875, and $6,787,330 in 1874.

PERSONAL.

The widow of a nobleman was arrested recently in London for felony. Upon the death of her husband she had married her coachman.

A son of George Hudson, once known as "the Railroad King," was recently found decapitated on the Metropolitan District Railway in England.

A Grand Rapids (Mich.) street car conductor has just drawn a $20,000 prize in a Kansas lottery, and will no longer "punch in the presence of the passengers."

Item from a Texas paper: While Probate Judge Bancroft, of Texarkana, was arguing some trivial case before 'Squire Bush in that city, some hard words ensued between the parties. Bush stepped from his desk, saying: "I adjourn this court to give you a licking," at the same time knocking Bancroft down. After he got up he repeated the blow, knocking him over a bench. Bancroft drew a knife and cut Bush twice—once in the face, from forehead to chin, the other time in the stomach. It is thought that he cannot recover.

Quite a laughable scene occurred in the House of Representatives at Washington, the other day, during an otherwise dull debate on a bill to confirm certain land patents in accordance with treaty stipulations. There appeared to be no earthly reason to oppose the measure, and yet Mr. HOLMAN, probably from sheer force of habit, raised some objection. This excited Mr. ELKINS, the New Mexico delegate, into a vigorous speech, in the course of which he threw the House into convulsions of laughter by roaring out that if HOLMAN had been one of Our Savior's disciples he would have objected to the Lord's Prayer and moved to recommit it with amendments.

The following interesting story has just been made public: A little boy, eleven years old, of a small village in Bohemia, called Greiffendorf, wrote without the knowledge of his parents to the Emperor of Austria the following letter:

MR. EMPEROR AT VIENNA: I should like to become a priest or a teacher. My father is a poor weaver, and has no money. Have the kindness, Mr. Emperor, and send me some money that I may learn to be a priest or a teacher, just as you wish. I salute you, the Mrs. Emperor, and the children. JOSEPH BENNESCH.

The letter duly reached the Private Secretary, and was forwarded to the Emperor in Hungary. The innocent style seems to have found favor, as shortly afterward the Burgomaster of the village received an official telegram to report about the circumstances of the case, and these having turned out satisfactory, the School Inspector of the neighboring town, Zwittau, was instructed to take the boy on board and give him every facility for his education.

Kite Day in Japan.

The 15th of April is the great day for Nagasaki. The Japanese are very fond of kite flying, and display a great deal of skill. The kites are no tails, and are made of two pieces of bamboo crossed, covered with thin but very strong paper. The people all assemble on the top of Kompira, a hill about eleven hundred feet high. Several hundred kites are in the air at the same time, and the great aim of each operator is to so maneuver his kite as to cut the string of the others. For this purpose the first two hundred feet of string from the kite is covered with resin and pounded glass. Sometimes four or five kites get foul of each other; then the thing is either to get your kite clear or cut the string of the others. Then, again, having cut a kite string, it is wonderful to see them catch this detached kite, away up in the air, with their kite and calculate it, the universally accepted rule being that a kite belongs to you just so long as you can keep it out of somebody else's hands.

A CONVENTION of ministers and laymen will be held at the Hippodrome, New York, on Wednesday and Thursday, March 29th and 30th, in connection with the close of the Moody and Sankey services. Morning and afternoon sessions of three hours will be held; practical topics relating to Christian and ministerial work will be discussed, Mr. Moody presiding, and Mr. Sankey conducting the service of song. Each evening the convention will be suspended and the evangelists will conduct their usual service.

GENERAL AND PARTICULAR.

Clymer will have to eat his leek.

Old Father Winter is after that young hopeful sprig, Spring, with a big icicle.

The cattle drive from Texas for the coming season foots up an aggregate of 258,000 head.

If it were not for Chorpenning, what proud eminence might Jere Black not aspire to now?

Now must Chicago be purified! Storey, of the *Times*, has been made a member of its grand jury.

General Dan. Sickles is coming home. Now the Democratic press will have somebody to pitch into.

If Clymer doesn't crawl out from under the debris pretty soon, it will be in order to dig for the remains.

Political conventions, county and State, are becoming as numerous as catbirds in a cherry tree in fruit time.

Jerry Perkins says he can "take a joke." That's quite true: he takes all his jokes and doesn't credit them.

The supreme iniquity is reached, and we have handkerchiefs with pictures of the everlasting Centennial buildings.

There are about as many candidates for the Governorship of Missouri as there were brigadiers in the rebel army.

It is stated that there has been a marked increase of insanity in New York since the opening of the Moody and Sankey revival services.

A new disease of the head and jaws has broken out among the hogs, in the West. A similar disease prevails largely in Congress.

There were no deaths from accident or violence in Boston last week, a circumstance that has not happened before for eighteen years.

Recent developments have fully established one thing, namely, that wherever you find a Republican thief you find also a Democratic tempter or parasite.

A magnificent silver set, presented to George Washington by his friends, is to be exhibited at the Centennial Exhibition. Wonder whether they were bribes?

Marsh is *en route* from Canada for Washington:

"By the pricking of my thumbs
Something wicked this way comes."

It is a curious but significant fact that the air in the hall of the lower branch of Congress was never so poisonous as since we have had a Democratic majority there.

Last year the following nations sent us contributions of citizens in the order of numerical importance: Germany, England, Ireland, Canada, China, France, Russia.

The gas war has struck St. Louis. Frauds on the city, amounting to over $1,000,000, have been discovered, and it is charged that the company has mutilated its books to conceal them.

And now the sentimental papers will be remarking that winter is lingering in the lap of spring, while the practical ones will observe that these late spring snows are good for the crops.

One of the first cares of the Legislature of Michigan was to direct the State Geologist to "report all valuable gold mines to the Governor," but up to date he has done nothing of the kind.

Was it Pendleton, or Clymer, to whom Sheridan had prophetic reference when he said: "Though I never scruple to lie to serve a friend it hurts one's conscience to be found out?"

Ben Hill is going to make another Republican speech. He will deliver the address on the 26th of April, on the occasion of the decoration of the graves of the Confederate dead at Columbus, Ga.

Creditors hang on worse than ever this season. The Detroit *Post* tells of a Michigan lumberman who takes a solemn oath that he is still dunned for $15 by the ghost of a cousin who died five years ago.

The survivors of Andersonville anticipate that their meeting at Norwich, Connecticut, April 12th will be largely attended and important. People as far South as Texas and as far West as Wyoming are coming.

When Butler wrote of the perils that do environ the man who meddles with cold iron, did he have a prophetic vision of the trouble with which the iron rail and the iron horse would encompass Tilden and Pendleton?

Bad luck consists in keeping your hands olded and grumbling because the world toes not use you well. Good luck consists n doing anything that you can find to do, and doing it faithfully, until something better offers.

Was there ever a more beautiful disquisition on the Divine patience than that embodied in the exclamation of a poor little black, the other day: "I'll tell you what, if God was quick tempered some folks would get hurt."

Getting down to the root of the matter. An English peasant who recently wrestled for a long time with a very tough piece of ak, on which he had been unable to make ny impression, at last burst out with the mprecation: "Dom they pigs that didn't eat thee when thou wast an acorn."

The voluble horror of the Democrats at Republican corruption recalls Pope's stinging description of an opposition reformer of his day:

"Thro' clouds of passion, P——'s views are lie foams a patriot to subsidie a peer;
mpatient sees his country sunk and sold,
And damns the market where he takes no gold."

Make a penny when you can,
'Tis useful as a tool to,
But who say's money makes the man,
A meager-witted fool is.
Rich he be whose genial breast,
With liberal salutation,
Hath welcomed all that's bright and best
Throughout the wide creation.

"Unprecedented Corruption."

To the Editor of the Pittsburgh Commercial:

Can you recall any unusual or exciting occurrence which was not unprecedented, in the history of the race? Was there ever a very cold day, or a very hot day; a very wet season, or a very dry one, that was not the coldest, the hottest, the wettest, or dryest in the memory of the oldest inhabitant? March 18, 1867, there was sleighing in Pittsburgh, and forthwith the city press broke into a chorus about the unprecedented cold of that season; but I remembered coming in a sleigh from Swissvale to Pittsburgh just twenty-one years before, and being so nearly frozen, in spite of buffalo robes and hot bricks, that I made a note of the day, March 18th.

Well, the present state of politics seems to impress folks very much as do all unusual occurrences, very much as our March sleighing did the press; and they join in the chorus, "Nothing like it since the fathers fell asleep!"

Do you all forget that, forty years ago, the whole political system of this country was founded on theft—that the cornerstone of the Republic was held to be the right of one set of men to feast and fatten, body and soul, mind and muscle? Do you forget that the great, magnanimous, glorious, grandiloquent Democratic party lived and moved and had its being by its divine right of horse-whipping women and stealing babies?

Do I forget the Kentucky Democrat, six feet three, with his shinny hat on the side of his head, and his thumbs in the armholes of his satin vest, the better to display his diamond pin, gold chains and seals, when he proposed to my husband, a man six feet one in his stockings, with bones like iron and muscles like whipcord, that he should horsewhip an old woman one hundred and two times in order to compel her to earn two hundred dollars for the Democratic happiness to spend in Havana cigars and fast horses?

We were in Kentucky, and wanted a house servant, when this member of the virtuous, old-timed Democracy remarked to Mr. S.:

"I have a woman I can let you have! She is a first rate washah and ironah; good cook; first rate housekeepah; an' I'll let you 'ave 'er foh two hund'ed dollahs a year, but I'll tell you one thing, you'd 'ave to hoss-hip 'er about twice a week youah-self, for that wife of youah's never could do anything with 'er!"

As we should have been required to feed and clothe and shelter her in addition to the two hundred, this would all have gone to his serene highness, whose sole dependence for a living was in just such transactions.

The woman whom he proposed to hire, was over fifty, from appearance, had been the mother of twelve children, some of them his brothers and sisters, some his sons and daughters, all sold, "sold and gone, to rice swamps dark and lone," and their prices expended in luxuries and fast living. The old mother was continuing to furnish her quota toward sustaining Democratic simplicity; and the means of persuasion used on her were revealed by her master's proposition. Her horsewhippings would have been "about" one hundred and two, as there are fifty-two weeks in the year, and she would have one for holiday, that between Christmas and New Year, when she would have missed her allowance!

Do I forget that this man, with his brawny muscles and big black whiskers, so spent his life loafing and swaggering, and got a living by selling his children and horsewhipping their mothers, was a fair specimen of Kentucky Democracy? Do I forget that all around me they were living just so, keeping harems, hiring out the surplus inmates and selling their children as regularly as an Illinois farmer sells his young cattle? Do I forget the hoary-headed old sinner, who boarded in the same house with us, hired a girl of eighteen to the landlady for her board, clothing and two hundred dollars a year, and required her to spend every night in his room, to take care of him if he should happen to need her? Do I forget that such things created no disgust or surprise, but that the people "were to the manner born?"

Do we all forget that in the good old times of the reign of the virtuous Democracy, it was a penal offense to teach any one of three millions of heathen, in this land, to read the name of the God who made them; that the ignorance of his constituents was a cause for boasting to a Democratic Congressman, so that Henry Wise publicly plumed himself on the fact that there was not a newspaper published in his district? Do we all forget that when the reign of this virtuous and intelligent Democracy was broken by the election of Harrison, he died opportunely from eating a plate of strawberries? and that the next break was also, opportunely, healed by the death of Taylor, just when it was known that he would not sign the Fugitive Slave bill, and that Filmore would? Do we forget that the doctor who attended both these opportune death-beds, and shut out all anti-Democratic influence until the result was certain, was the same who was on the ground when Sumner's life was attempted, and added the assassin's club by treating the wound as a simple abrasion, and the Democracy by official reports of the case to suit their purpose, and then joined the Confederacy and went South when the rebellion broke out?

Do we all forget the wholesale perjury and official robbery which led up to that rebellion and the savage crimes which marked its prosecution? Talk about official corruption now! Could we expect less under the circumstances? What was to become of the thieves who had so long ruled the nation? They were not annihilated when the people voted them out of power. When the police make a raid on gamblers in one place and disperse them we may expect their appearance in another.

No purer patriotism ever inspired the breasts of men than that which moved those who organized the Republican party; but they were in a sad minority; and, to carry their point, must win converts. These had to be taken from a bad lot, and they could not choose but accept the aid of the pretended converts. Then the men who would serve Truth for her own sake, were only too ready to resign all honors and emoluments to those who were thereby induced to join their ranks; and these, again, could not shake off their old associates and habits.

Lincoln, a tried Republican, with Republican antecedents and connections, made no bad mistake in selecting his Cabinet and confidential friends, and his administration will ever stand out in history as an honor to the race; but this is the only Republican administration we have had. Johnson, from personal pique, quarreled with the old Democratic banditti who, for so many years robbed and murdered at will, and as a reward of merit was placed where an assassination would make him President. The Republicans who elected him could not believe that assassination had come to be a political feature in our national politics, or they would probably have chosen another man for the place. They do not, even now, see that the only three Presidents we have had in forty years, who were not Democrats, have been assassinated. In Johnson's election they gave the Democracy an opportunity to try that policy, and it was not slow to embrace it. So we got a Democratic President whose sins could be and were charged upon Republicanism.

Next, the exogencies of the war demanded the election of a Democrat, and if Republicans could not elect him the Democrats would. So we got President Grant, who never voted any but a Democratic ticket, who did not, even in the crisis of the war, vote for the man and party that had promoted him to the highest place in the army—who did not, in the hour of the country's greatest need, vote for a party that only pledged to the maintenance of the Government, and its preservation against armed rebellion! How could any one expect that he would or could break away from the old political affinities which held him in such iron grasp?

You speak with surprise of General Belknap "in a Cabinet which should have been Republican." What right had you to expect it to be Republican with its head a Democrat? How could that be a Republican administration against which the most prominent Republicans of the nation were banded? Did not those now dead politicians, sweet and treacherous, die with coming upon us? But the nation was so blinded by military glory that all statesmanship was deemed pusillanimous, and nothing less than the late revelations could have restored its sight.

That its eyes are pretty well opened there seems to be good hope; and if so we may well thank God and take courage. If, through Belknap and Babcock, we have escaped a third term, we have bought our wisdom cheap. After our gigantic military struggle, there was great danger of undue supremacy of the military power, and the people who, despite the most solemn warnings, continued to overlook that violation of law consisted in the appointment of Babcock to a civil office, while holding a military command, might have let their liberties slip from their grasp, had not Belknap and Babcock by early results of military rules applied to civil affairs.

The people should, by this time, have learned that American Democracy means the robbery of the poor, that office holders may wear diamonds and that a Democratic cabinet which should have been Republican, is not likely to do any better than if it should have been Democratic. If they want to put Republicanism on trial, they ought to elect a Republican President, whose Cabinet will, naturally, be Republican. The one and only Republican administration that this country has ever had, requires no explanation, or apology, or investigation. Now let us have another and see if it will not follow in the footsteps of its illustrious predecessor.

JANE GREY SWISSHELM.

The machinery and stock of the rubber factory at Morrisville, Bucks county, Pa., were recently sold by the Sheriff to Sylvester Dana, for $10,780.

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OFFICE OF BOARD OF REVISION,
PITTSBURGH, April 3, 1876.

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AN EXTRA BARGAIN IN GROS GRAIN BLACK DRESS SILKS.
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Notice in Equity.
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FINANCE AND TRADE.

MONDAY EVENING, March 20, 1876.

Little alteration was developed by the opening of the week in the loan market to-day, as the frequently reported condition of abundance of loanable funds, combined with light offerings of first-class commercial paper, was still the leading feature. There are many causes combining to produce the present abnormal state of affairs, as the concurrent existence of abundant money and generally unprosperous trade and manufactures must be considered, and nearly all of them exert a peculiarly strong influence upon our local money market. Lack of confidence in the old investments for capital, a plethora of capital seeking employment in the channels where it is least wanted, an exceedingly wide range for rates and high prices for all securities of undoubted strength are peculiarly noticeable here. It may be considered as certain that a considerable percentage of the loanable capital now held idle and seeking investment in commercial bills, or bonds and mortgages, must eventually take the form of permanent investments. It may also be said that the condition of Pittsburgh's leading interests is such as to prove, beyond doubt, the necessity of improved transportation facilities in the direction of which Pittsburgh shall have a share. Nothing could do more to restore prosperity to our manufactures and trade, to build up falling values to our real estate, and to inaugurate a new era of growth and development in the interests of our city, than the employment in this way of some of the capital that is now lying idle in the vaults of the banks.

Rate of discount continue easy as formerly quoted on all strictly first-class commercial paper. The banks still exhibit a preference for paper of short dates, but there is considerable outside capital that will take paper of four to six months date or even longer provided its character is beyond criticism. Out-of-town paper is not much liked by lenders, principally on account of the difficulty of getting thorough information as to the character and prosperity of distant firms.

—The foreign exchange market for the past few days has been very firm, but speculative holders of bills for a further rise in the East have been disappointed. The principal purchasers of sterling and German exchange were importers of Government bonds. During the month of March there were called, on account of new American loan negotiations in the London market, £2,176,000, against £828,750 in January and £975,000 in February. The bills drawn against these negotiations have done much to keep the exchange market from further advancing, but we understand they are now about all exhausted even from second hands.

—The Wall street correspondent of the Boston *Commercial Bulletin*, in connection with the sudden and remarkable recovery of stocks from the effect of the bank failure last week, makes some very pointed remarks, as follows:

Considering the stagnant condition of general business this is truly extraordinary, and suspicious minds will naturally conclude without that rational reports are cooked for the occasion. It is clear that favorable returns are made the most of, and when a return will not make a good showing it is not dwelt on. The bull movement is purely of Wall street, the outsiders do not count themselves in, any more than they did in the winter market.

The lucky ones will sell out well at high prices, as they did in February last, and the luckless ones will pay the cash. As the close on Wednesday the market was rampant and every bull was on the *qui vive* either to buy or to hope for the good time soon coming when he could unload and make good his long depicted bank account.

—A comparison of the actual condition of the New York banks, as reported on Saturday, with those of the corresponding date last year, is as follows:

	March 11.	March 18.	March 20, '75
Loans	$270,748,400	$263,865,700	$283,358,100
Specie	24,153,800	22,393,400	27,288,800
Legal Tend's	47,629,500	45,968,100	52,131,900
Deposits	227,102,900	220,584,900	218,419,300
Circulation	16,667,700	16,483,200	23,231,200

—The following table shows the prices of gold, Government bonds, railway stocks, etc., at the various sessions of the New York Stock Exchange during the day, furnished by the Fifth National Bank, No. 2 Sixth street:

March 20, 1876.	10:20 A. M.	11:30 A. M.	1:20 P. M.	2:30 P. M.	3:00 P. M.
Gold	114¾	114¾	114¾	114¾	114⅝
U. S. 6's, 1881, coup	118½	118½	118½	118½	118½
5-20's, 1865	118½	118½	118¾	118¾	118¾
5-20's, 1865, new	118½	118½	118¾	118¾	118¾
5-20's, 1867, registered	121½	121½	121¾	121¾	121¾
5-20's, 1867	121½	121½	121¾	121¾	121¾
5-20's, 1868	122¼	122¼	122¼	122¼	122¼
10-40's	118	118	118	118	118
10-40's, coupons	118	118	118	118	118
Currency 6's	123½	123½	123½	123½	123½
New 5 per cents	120½	120½	120½	120½	120½
Western Union Tel	68	68	68	68	67¾
Quicksilver					
Lastic Mail	20¾	20¾	20	20	19¾
Panama		135			
Adams Express		109	108¾	109	
Wells Fargo Express		95½	95½		
American Express		63½	63½		
United States		77	77		113
New York Central	113	113	113	113	113
Erie	20	20	20	20	20
Michigan Central	65¾	65¾	64	64¾	64¾
Michigan Southern	64	64¼	64¼	64¾	64¾
Illinois Central		102½			
Cleveland & Pittsb'h	47	47	46¾		
Chicago & Northwest	42¾	42¾	42¾	43	42¾
Do. preferred			64¾	64¾	64¾
Rock Island				102½	
St. Paul common	43½	42¾	43	43	42¾
Do. preferred		104			103¾
Wabash common			3¾	4	3¾
Fort Wayne	104	104	104		
Ohio & Mississippi			29¾	29¾	29¾
Union Pacific		37	37	37	36¾
Harlem	140	142½	143		
Hannibal & St. Joe	18¾	18¾			
Hannibal & St. Joe, pref					4
Iron Mountain		24¾	4	4¼	4½
C., C. & I. C.					14
Missouri Pacific					
At. & Pac. Tel				20¾	
South Carolina, Jan		28			
South Carolina, July		30½			
Missouri 6's		103¾			103¾

—The following is the report of the prices of leading stocks on the Philadelphia Stock Board, as received by wire at noon to-day:

Stocks.	Bid.	Asked.	Sales.
Pennsylvania Central	56¾	56¾	2
Reading	51	51½	
United Co.'s of N.J	140	141	
Oil Creek	14¼	14½	
Lehigh Valley	62¾	63	
Allegheny Valley	100¾	101	
Central Transportation		48½	
Union Pacific bonds		104	

—The London *News* of the 24, in its money article, says: "The fall in the price of silver continues to attract attention. Tenders were again received at the Bank of England to-day for council bills on India, but with the same result as on the two previous occasions, that all the tenders were under the minimum, and consequently there were no allotments. The fall in silver, however, has not even been temporarily arrested as it was on the two former occasions, by a momentary demand for delivery which sprung up. Transactions have already taken place to-day at 59¾d per ounce standard, a fall of about ½d since yesterday, and a still further decline is considered probable when the next arrivals are offered, no sign being yet apparent of a level being reached at which there will be an advance. So serious is the difficulty that we understand a select committee will shortly be appointed in the House of Commons, or a royal commission appointed, to inquire into the causes of this decline in silver, and its probable extent and consequences."

—The Chicago *Tribune* says: The counter transactions of the banks were not heavy for Saturday, and the demand for paper was moderate, and not sufficient to absorb the accumulating means of the banks. The dullness of country trade and the lightness of country shipments of produce to market, have been greater than usual this winter, on account of the soft weather. This has given the funds of the banks more employment than they would otherwise have had. There is still a demand from the country for funds to move the crops, and paper is offered by country dealers in place of payment to merchants. The surplus of loanable funds is not yet pressing, but the banks will begin to feel the accumulation of idle funds as soon as the country roads improve, and the more since they will not increase, as they had last spring, for nearly $2,000,000 in loans to the city. Good negotiable paper is in demand at the banks, and large drawers will be able to secure good terms for the next few months. Rates of discount at the banks are 7@10 per cent., the former rate being accorded only to independent borrowers with the best of collateral. On the street, rates are 10@18 per cent. There is an insufficient supply of good paper.

[By Associated Press.]

Gold Closed at 114¾.

MONEY.

NEW YORK, March 20.—Money 3@7 per cent., closing at 3. Prime mercantile paper 5@6 per cent. Customs receipts $537,000. The Assistant Treasurer disbursed $91,000. Clearings $17,030,000. Sterling steady at 485¾@486.

GOLD.

Gold opened at 114¾ and closed at 114¾. Carrying rates 3@6 per cent.

STOCKS AND BONDS.

Government bonds a fraction lower, in sympathy with gold. Railroad bonds active and in some cases lower. State bonds steady. Stocks dull and in the main weak. With few exceptions the fluctuations were slight. Pacific Mail was the feature, declining 1½ per cent. The Bank of the State of New York was to-day paying certified checks and depositors who so desire had been balanced. Transactions only 50,000 shares, of which 46,000 were Pacific Mail, 18,000 Western Union, 5,000 Northwestern, 9,000 St. Paul, 9,000 Erie and 12,000 Lake Shore. The following were the closing quotations:

STOCKS.			
W. U. Telegraph	113½	Toledo & Wabash	4½
Pacific Mail	19½	Do. preferred	9½
Adams Express	109	Ft. Wayne	104
Wells-Fargo Ex	95½	Illinois Central	4½
American Ex	63	Do. preferred	17
U. S. Express	37½	Chicago & Alton	104½
New York Central	113	Do. preferred	109½
Erie	20	Ohio & Mississippi	30½
Do. preferred	39	Cleveland & Pittsburg	47
Harlem	146	Boring's & Quincy	117
Do. preferred	134	Hannibal & St. Joe	18¾
Mich. Central	64½	Atlantic & P. Tel	19½
Lake Shore	64¾	Union Pacific stock	37
Illinois Central	102½	Central Pac. bonds	87½
Cleve. & Pitts	97¼	Union Pac. bonds	104½
North Western	42¾	Land grants	19¾
Do. preferred	64¾	Mariposa	8½
Ft. W. & Central	102½	Do. preferred	24
Rock Island	103½	Panama	134
St. Paul	42¾	Missouri Pacific	13½
Do. preferred	103¾		

GOVERNMENTS.			
U. S. coupons, 1881	122½	New 5's	118¾
5-20's, 1865	118¾	Do. registered	118¾
5-20's, 1865, new	119	10-40's, coupons	118¾
5-20's, 1867	121¾	Currency 6's	125½
5-20's, 1868	122¼		

STATE BONDS.			
Tennessee, old	43½	Virginia, new	34
Tennessee, new	41	Missouri 6's	103½
Virginia, old	34		

LONDON, March 20, 5 P. M.—Consols for money 94 5-16; for account 94 7-16. United States *bonds*—5-20's, 1865, 105½; do 1867, 106; new 5's, 106. 10-40's, 106. Railroad securities—New York Central 106; Erie 18; preferred 29.

PARIS, March 20.—Rentes 66 francs 65 centimes.

FRANKFORT, March 20.—United States bonds—New 5's 101½.

NEW ORLEANS, March 20.—Gold 114½. Sight ½ premium. Sterling—Bank 557.

GENERAL MARKETS.

OFFICE OF THE PITTSBURGH COMMERCIAL, MONDAY, March 20, 1876.

The week opened quietly in commercial circles, the snowy and stormy weather having almost entirely put a quietus on some classes of traffic, while others were greatly checked thereby. Under such circumstances the quiet condition of trade does not carry with it any particular significance, as it can all be ascribed to extraneous causes and does not prove that any slackness exists in the demand for merchandise, handled through our wholesale and commission houses. Those, however, who have been predicting an active and prosperous trade for the spring season, from all present indications, should not be too sanguine in their prophecies. It is undoubtedly true that in some respects there is an improvement. But the work of restoration is naturally of slow progress, and in addition to that, the depression in the iron business cannot fail to exert an adverse influence, both of a direct and indirect character, upon the activity of Pittsburgh's trade. In many respects we consider that the prospects are good for improvement in mercantile circles; but we are decidedly of the opinion that, for the coming season at least, progress in that direction will be very gradual.

Values to-day were generally steady, and in most departments of trade there were no important alterations. The only movement in prices of any note was in lard, the firmness heretofore noted having been developed into an advance of ¼c, under the influence of very marked advances in the West.

The receipts of the leading articles of produce, in this city, since our last, are as follows:

Flour, bbls	2,076	Apples, bbls	141
Corn, bus	1,469	Cheese, bxs	56
Wheat, bus	720	Butter, pkgs	77
Barley, bus	900	Bacon, tcs	129
Rye, bus	800	Eggs, pkgs	241
Oats, bus	4,493	Hay, bales	139
Potatoes, bus	603		

The quotations given in the following reports are prices realized in wholesale transactions, unless otherwise specified. On small sales dealers will charge an advance. Prices of grain, unless stated to the contrary, are free in elevator.

Breadstuffs and Produce.

APPLES—The market is quiet but steady at former rates, with a moderate jobbing demand. Values are strong at $4 50@4 75 per barrel for choice; prime $4 00@4 25 ₱ bbl; mixed lots range from $2 50@3 50 ₱ bbl.

APPLE BUTTER—The market is steady. We quote business in a jobbing way at 70@75c ₱ gallon.

ALE—We quote prime white navy from first hands $1 15@1 20 ₱ bushel; in a jobbing way $1 16@1 25.

BRIMSTONE—The inquiry was only moderate and sales were limited. We quote at 3½@3¾c ₱ pound.

BUCKWHEAT FLOUR—The market is very dull. We quote prices week as $2 00 ₱ 100 pounds.

BUTTER—Prices continued strong, with a light supply of choice grades in first hands. There was a good demand and receipts were closely sold up. We quote the best qualities of gilt-edged finally at 35@37c ₱ lb; prime to choice, 30@34c; common to fair, 25@28c.

CIDER—There is a rather quiet market. We quote at $5 00@6 00 ₱ barrel.

CRANBERRIES—Prices are firm at $15 00@16 00 per barrel, as to quality and condition; $5 00 ₱ crate.

CHEESE—There was a rather limited trade but the market was firm at former quotations. We quote jobbing prices as follows: New York Goshen 14½@15c; prime Ohio factory 13½@13½c per ₱.

DRIED FRUITS—We quote common to choice apples at 3@5c; sliced, 10@11c. Peaches—Halves 12@13c; peeled 19@21c. Blackberries 14c. Huckleberries 10@12c. Raspberries 9@33c. Cherries, pitted, 25@28c; unpitted 8@9c per ₱.

EGGS—The supply is increased, arrivals being 241 packages, and the market was easy at 15@16c per dozen for strictly fresh.

GRAIN—There is no change in the quotations for grain and values and sales continue to be rather limited. Wheat is quiet but steady. We quote Michigan white at $1 40@1 45 Pennsylvania and Ohio amber at $1 50@1 60; amber $1 36@1 39; Northwestern red $1 35@1 40; low grades are not much neglected at $1 16@1 22; rejected do 90c@$1 10, as to quality. A quiet feeling prevails in spring wheat, No. 1 milling at $1 26@1 30. Corn remains steady and firm, at former prices. We quote shelled at 51@52c for yellow; 50@51c for high-mixed; 47@49c for low-mixed; prime Kansas in bags new car 80@82c for yellow; mixed 47@49c. Oats were in moderate supply and easy enough quotably unchanged. We quote mixed Pennsylvania and Ohio at 39@40c; white do at 41@42c; Western mixed 38@41c. Barley is very stagnant at former quotations; Canada is held at $1 10@1 30 for choice; common to fair at $1 00@1 10; common to prime 85@90c. Rye is quiet and easy at 78@80c ₱ bushel. Jobbing sales are the same at the usual advance.

FLOUR—There is a fairly steady demand on first-class brands, while the large stocks are common to inferior flours, make their values depressed. The rates current are as follows for the wholesale trade of our local millers: No. 1 white wheat flour $7 75 ₱ bbl; No. 1 amber do $7 25; red wheat flour $6 75 @7 00 in sacks or $7 25@7 50 bbl. The jobbing prices of the leading dealers for standard brands of flour are as follows: Straight XXX Ohio and Indiana winter wheat flour $7 00@7 25; white wheat $7 50@7 75; Wisconsin is quoted at $6 00@6 25; Minnesota $6 50@6 75; Iowa and St. Louis $6 25@ 6 50; choice patents $8 50@9 00; red win.er wheat flour is active and steady at $6 00@6 25; spring flour $6 50@6 75; self-raising flour, in 6 ₱ packages, $5 25 ₱ dozen packages; cornmeal $3 ₱ bushel; cornmeal, $6 50@6 75 ₱ keg; graham flour $5 00@5 25 ₱ bbl. Buckwheat flour 2@2½c ₱ ₱ for wholesale and higher for jobbing trade.

HAY—The supply is still large and prices continue depressed. We quote upland prairie at $10 00@13 00 ₱ ton; No. 1 timothy $12 00@13 00; No. 2, $11 00@12 00.

HOPS—The market continues at former rates, with a moderate supply and no tendency toward any alteration in values. We hear of no sales from first hands, while the jobbing store sales were made at the usual advance. Several potatoes sold at 30c ₱ ₱.

HERBS—There was a good demand and light supply at firm prices. We quote clover seed scarce at $7 25@7 50 ₱ bushel; choice timothy in round lots; timothy seed is easy at $2 25@2 75 ₱ bushel. Bayseed is $1 45 in round lots; $1 50@1 60 in a small way; onion sets $3 00@3 50 ₱ bushel.

HONEY—Market well supplied. We quote country stock 15@20c ₱ gallon; best city make, No. 2, at 25c ₱ gallon with pay for barrels.

Provisions.

There was a steady and active business in the leading staples of hog products to-day, with values quite firm. The advance noted in our last report, on lard in the Western markets, acted upon values here to-day, so as to bring prices on leaf and refined lard at ¼c. In other respects there was no important advance.

BACON—There was a firm feeling at former quotations which are as follows: Shoulders 10¼@10¾c ₱ pound; short rib sides 13¾@13¾c; clear sides 13½c.

CUT AND CURED MEATS—Hams were steady and in fair demand at 14¾c ₱ ₱ for extra sugar cured. Breakfast bacon was in good demand and quote sugar cured at 13c. Sugar cured shoulders were firm but quotable at 10½c ₱ ₱. Dried beef, sugar cured, rules at 15c. Beef tongues, ₱ dozen, are quoted at $5 50.

LARD—The market is strong with an upward tendency. We quote prime leaf lard in tierces at 14@14½c ₱ ₱; in bulk in buildings 14½@14¾c ₱ ₱; in buckets 15@15¼c ₱ ₱; in 5 ₱ cartons 15½c ₱ ₱; in 2-3 pails 15¾c ₱ ₱; in 5-3 pails 15¾c ₱ ₱; in 6-5 pails 15c ₱ ₱.

LARD OIL—There is a steady demand at firm prices. We quote extra winter-strained at @1 05 ₱ gallon; No. 1 at 90c ₱ gallon; No. 2 at 75c; miners' oil, extra, 65@67½c; No. 1 at 53c.

HAM SAUSAGE—Continues steady at 9½@10c ₱ ₱.

MESS PORK—The market is quiet and steady at unchanged quotations, the ruling prices being $23 25@23 50 ₱ barrel for prime mess.

SALT—We quote coarse Liverpool in city rendered, $2 00@2 10 ₱ ton; coarse do $2 40@2 50.

COUNTRY BACON—There is a moderate demand for country-cured meats at steady values. We quote hams at 12½@13c ₱ ₱; shoulders 9@10c; sides 12@13c; lard 11@12c.

Petroleum.

There was a strong market to-day, but the early and late prices did not vary over ¼c in crude, while refined was steady and stronger. We find in an Eastern exchange the following concerning the state of the oil business at the seaboard: "A report was spread Thursday that the depression of the oil trade had embarrassed some of the companies having petroleum refineries at Greenpoint, L. I., and that one of the largest dealers narrowly escaped suspension. A reporter called at the offices of some of the principal oil refining firms to learn the condition of the trade and the causes that have produced the depression. One of the directors of the Standard Oil Company said that he did not know to which item in the figures of exports the trade was depressed, but not more so than in other years at this season. The refineries around New York principally supplied European and other foreign markets, and the business season was between the spring and autumn months. After the end of autumn there was hardly any demand. This has kept down the prices of the refined oil—quoted at present at 14½ cents per gallon, while the prices of crude have risen considerably within the last few months. Early summer it sold at 5¼ cents, and now at 8¾ cents per gallon. This change was caused, he thought, by the fact that many oil wells closed work in the summer when the market was glutted. The present state of affairs is he thought, would not continue much longer, as the closed wells would be worked again as soon as the export trade began.

"Mr. Pouch, of the firm of Bostwick & Co., said that the price of crude oil was so high that it left no margin for the refined; in fact, there was a loss of about one-half cent in refining the oil. Most refiners were storing their refined oil in tanks, or would have to close their refineries and wait for better times. There were too many persons engaged in the business, and he thought this depression would drive out the weaker firms. At the office of the Devoe Oil Works the information given was similar to that obtained before. One advantage that oil refiners had, one of the officers said, was that business was done on a cash basis. Export oil was paid for the day after shipment, and that for home consumption was sold on from seven to thirty days' credit only. As the crude oil was also paid for, if any refiners were obliged to close their works for some time, they would be in no severe embarrassment as other manufacturers are in similar circumstances. Other firms, while they admitted the present dullness of the trade, spoke hopefully of a revival in the spring, though most of them said that too many persons were engaged in the business."

CRUDE—There was a firm market throughout the day, the feeling being decidedly firm but no quotable change was noted. The opening and closing prices were $2 00¾ for Conduit certificates; $2 05¾ for United; $2 03¾ for Union; $1 98¾@2 00¾ for Pennsylvania, Carnot and Relief; $2 22½@2 25 for immediate shipment.

REFINED—There was a strong tone to the refined market in sympathy with the firmness of crude and the reports of advancing markets at the seaboard. We advance quotations on Consolidated and Eastern deliveries 5c@5½c, which is an apparent step toward better times for the refined oil interest. We quote standard white test in the cars at 11¾@12c for immediate and thousand barrel lots, free on board at works. New York delivery rules at 14¾@14¾c for prompt and the month. Philadelphia is quoted at 14¾@14¾c for spot and March delivery. Baltimore rules at 14¾@14¾c for prompt and this months' delivery.

OIL BARRELS—Continue dull and unchanged at former prices, viz.: $1 15@1 20 for city made; $1 05@1 10 for country do.

[By Western Union Telegraph.]

OIL CITY, March 20.—The *Derrick* says: The market at the opening was moderately strong, though quite dull, the first sales bids for new United certificates being $1 03¾, and the same asked for old. At this price a few sales were made, when the demand strengthened, and $1 05¾@1 06 was bid. Between one and two o'clock buyers began to manifest an interest in the day, and holders seeing this at once withdrew and demanded advanced figures. Under this demand the market advanced to $1 07½@1 08¾ very rapidly. A large business was done, until sellers apparently afraid of breaking the market withdrew again, and the price advanced to $2 05, at which dealings were moderate. There were a few sales of certificates dated Monday at $1 05¾, which was the highest point reached during the day. Between five and six o'clock the feeling was weaker and sales were made at $2 04¾, which could have been quoted as the closing price. Shipment $2 12½@2 22½. The total sales were 87,000 barrels.

TITUSVILLE, March 20.—The *Herald* says: The crude markets of the region were firm in all of the deliveries. United advanced from $1 08¾ at the opening to $2 05¾ at which there were some sales; $2 04¾ was bid at the close. Union stood 2¾c below United, and Conduit at $2 00¾. Pennsylvania pipeage paid certificates for fall delivery were $2 20@2 23½. Karns remained the same as United during the day. Grant and Relief were quoted at $1 99¾@1 99¾. The foreign markets continue to advance steadily but slowly. Sales were 249,500 barrels.

NEW YORK, March 20, closing 18.—There is an advance of ½c on refined with crude unchanged. An increased number of export orders are being closed out. Sales are reported of 3,000 barrels refined late yesterday at 14¾c; 5,000 barrels rumored at 14¾@14¾c; 4,500 barrels in Baltimore, late yesterday, at 14½c; 2,000 barrels do at 14¾c; 2,000 barrels in Philadelphia late yesterday at 14¾c, and a rumored sale of 4,500 barrels do at 14¾@14¾c. Crude in bulk is quoted at 8¾c and 11¾@11¾c in shipping order; refined 14¾@14½c; cases 18¾@20c; naphtha is quoted at 10c for city. At Baltimore refiners rules at 14½c and Philadelphia 14¾@14¾c.

PARKERS, March 20.—Market opens firm with more buyers than sellers; $2 06¾ bid for United; Conduit $2 06¾; Union $2 03¾ bid; $2 03¾ asked; outside lines $1 95@1 97½; shipment $2 25@2 25.

TITUSVILLE, March 20.—Market opens firm at $2 20@2 22½.

OIL CITY, March 20.—Market firm at $2 05¾ bid for United at wells; $2 06¾ asked; sales at $2 06¾; immediate shipment $2 20 bid.

ROUSEVILLE, March 20.—Market steady without business; quoted at $2 12½@2 15.

TIDIOUTE, March 20.—Market firmly held at $2 20.

PHILADELPHIA, March 20.—Market firm; standard white 14¾@14¾c; crude 8¾c; cases 18¾c.

[By Associated Press.]

NEW YORK, March 20.—Petroleum quiet; crude 8¾@8¾c; refined 14¾@14¾c; cases 18¾@ 21¾c.

BALTIMORE, March 20.—Petroleum firm; crude in barrels 11¾c; refined 14¾c.

LIVERPOOL, March 20.—Refined petroleum 11@ 11½d; spirits do 8¾@9¾d.

LONDON March 20.—Refined petroleum 10@ 10½d.

ANTWERP, March 20.—Refined petroleum 31 francs.

CLEVELAND, March 20.—Petroleum firm and unchanged; standard white, 110 degrees test, 14½c; prime white State test 12½c, in car lots, cash.

REFINED OIL RECEIVED BY A. V. R. R.

Shipper.	Consignee.	Bbls.
Lockhart & F	Warden, F & Co	77
Standard Oil Co.	Warden, F & Co	97
J. A. McKee & Son.	Warden, F & Co	101
Total		1,850

LIVE STOCK MARKETS.

Union Drove Yards, Allegheny City

OFFICE OF THE PITTSBURGH COMMERCIAL, MONDAY, March 20, 1876.

CATTLE

The usual shippers to this market were on hand with their supplies of cattle from Chicago and other points West, comprising "all sorts," from the lowest scalawag to the finest bullock, fit to adorn the best butcher's block in the city. The offerings were well sold up at about the following quotations:

Extra Philadelphia bullocks	$5 50@6 00
Choice, 1,300 to 1,400 lbs	5 25@5 50
Good, 1,100 to 1,300 lbs	5 00@5 15
Fair, 1,000 to 1,100 lbs	4 75@5 00
Bulls and stags	3 00@4 25
Stockers	3 75@4 00
Texans, 1,000 to 1,200 lbs, few in market	4 00@5 00

HOGS.

No change in prices; from last week's quotations. Supply fully up with the demand, and the market generally reported dull, except for good butchers' hogs, which were in demand at good prices. George Emrich made sales of some nice fat hogs at prices not far from 5½c. We are in a hurry to give exact prices of hogs to-day, but "guess" the following figures will not be much out of the way:

Extra Philadelphia	$5 25@5 75
Good Yorkers	5 00@5 25
Roughs	4 50@4 75

SHEEP.

Market a little shaded from last week's rates, although the offerings were light and scarcely up with the demand. The usual supply of choice sheep and lambs were on sale, which were bought by the trade and others fresh.

Extra, 100 to 110 lbs	$5 75@7 00
Prime, 90 to 95 lbs	6 25@6 50
Good, 85 to 85 lbs	5 75@6 25
Fair, 70 to 75 lbs	5 00@5 50
Common, 70 to 75 lbs	4 50@4 75

MILCH COWS.

There was a good supply on the market today, and prices were governed entirely by their qualities as milkers, the range being from $30 00 up to $75 00.

[By Associated Press.]

New York.

NEW YORK, March 20.—Beeves—Fresh receipts 3,110 head, making 6,850 head for the week, against 7,700 last week. Quality fair to good. Market active and firm at an advance of 22@30c, part of which was due to the improved quality; a few extra steers sold at $12 50@13 00; some common Kansas steers $9 00; but $9 75@11 00 was the extreme range for noticeable of the offerings, including a number of steers, 1,460 lbs and upwards, $11 25@11 50; good do, 1,250 to 1,350 lbs, $10 50@11 00.

Sheep—Receipts 7,370 head, making 13,420 head for the week, against 19,859 head the week preceding. Market opened firmer than for a number of days past. Market active and firmer an advance of rather more than 50c per cwt. Sales of choice fancy sheep, 120 and 125 lbs, sold at $8 75@9 00; a few extra sold at $9 25; common to fair, $6 50@8 50; extreme range was $6 00@8 50, with 22 carloads at $6 50@7 50. About 800 were slaughtered here this week for shipment to London, and now are gone. There were too many persons engaged in the business, and he thought this depression would drive out the weaker firms. At the office of the Devoe Oil Works the information given was similar to that obtained before. One advantage that oil refiners had, one of the officers said, was that business was done on a cash basis. Export oil was paid for the day after shipment, and that for home consumption was sold on from seven to thirty days' credit only. As the crude oil was also paid for, if any refiners were obliged to close their works for some time, they would be in no severe embarrassment as other manufacturers are in similar circumstances. Other firms, while they admitted the present dullness of the trade, spoke hopefully of a revival in the spring, though most of them said that too many persons were engaged in the business."

Lambs—Receipts 400 head. Market nominal; common to choice $5 00@6 50.

Philadelphia.

PHILADELPHIA, March 20.—Cattle dull this week, but prices were without material change; 2,600 head arrived and were sold as follows: extra Pennsylvania and Western steers; $5 50@ 6 25 for one lot; good do, and $4 00@5 00 for common, as to quality.

Sheep—Dull and rather lower; 8,000 head sold at $4 50@7 25, as to quality.

Hogs—Firmly held; 2,000 head sold at $12 50@ 14 00.

St. Louis.

ST. LOUIS, March 20.—Hogs stronger at $7 45@7 65; Yorkers $7 75@8 00; packing $7 35@7 55. Cattle—Better feeling and in good demand; medium to fair $4 50@4 75; pony steers $3 75@ 4 60; fair to choice native cows $2 50@4 50.

Cincinnati.

CINCINNATI, March 20.—Hogs steady; common to good light $7 50@8 25; fair to medium heavy $8 00@8 60.

MARKETS BY TELEGRAPH.

PRODUCE.

Chicago.

CHICAGO, March 20, 1876.

FLOUR—Demand good at full prices.

GRAIN—Wheat closed weak; No. 2 Chicago spring $1 03¾ spot; $1 04¾ seller April; $1 06¾@ 1 06¾ seller May; No. 3, 99¢@$1 00; rejected 78¢@ 79c. Corn quiet but steady; No. 2 mixed 44@ 45¢ spot; fresh 45c spot; 44¾c seller April; 47¾c bid seller May; new rejected 37c. Oats steady and in moderate demand; No. 2 at 29c spot; 31c seller April; 34½@34¾c seller May. Barley firm; 65c spot; 65c seller May. Rye dull at 63c.

PROVISIONS—Pork dull and nominal; $22 40 spot; $22 45 seller April; $22 67½@22 70 seller May; $22 95 seller June. Lard quiet but steady; 13.60c spot; 13.60@13.67½c seller April; 13.80@ 13.95c seller May. Bulk meats firm at 8¾@12¾ @12¾c.

WHISKY—Higher; $1 05 bid.

LATER—On Call Board this afternoon wheat was $1 03¾@1 04¾ April; $1 06¾ May. Corn firmer; 45¾@45¾c May. Oats unchanged. Pork higher; $22 50 cash; $22 75@22 77½ May. Lard higher; 13.65@13.70c cash; 13.90@13.92½c May.

New York.

NEW YORK, March 20.—Flour opened better with a fair business, closing with the advance; partly lost; receipts 12,000 barrels; superfine Western and State $4 40@4 80; common to good $4 85@5 50; good to choice $5 60@5 90; superfine wheat extra $5 80@7 75; extra Ohio $5 40@7 25; St. Louis $5 35@9 00. Rye flour steady at $4 25@ 6 40. Commeal more active and firmer at $2 60@3 00. Wheat opened a shade firmer, closing quiet at about full prices; receipts 8,000 bushels; No. 3 spring nominally $1 33@1 40; white Michigan $1 48; No. 2 Chicago spring, in store, $1 26; No. 3 $1 15@1 17. Rye firm; State 80@82c. Barley held at 90c. Barley firm and unchanged. Malt quiet and heavy. Corn opened firmer, closing steady; receipts 70,000 bushels; mixed and no grade 56c; Western mixed, old, in store, 58c. Oats unchanged; receipts 10,000 bushels. Coffee unchanged. Hops firm; Eastern and Western 10@16c. Coffee quiet; jobbing at 13¾@19¾c. Sugar firm; fair to good, 8¼@8¾c; prime 8¾@9c. Molasses and rice quiet. Tallow firm at 8c. Rosin firmer at $1 60@1 65. Turpentine excited at 40c. Eggs unchanged. Pork quiet at $22 25@22 50 for regular quote. Beef quiet. Cut meats 7@9c, middles firmer; long clear Western 13¾@13¾c. Lard firmer at 13.90@14c. Butter firm; Western 16@21c; State 23@32c. Whisky decidedly firmer at $1 12@1 12½.

Foreign.

LIVERPOOL, March 20.—California white wheat average 10s@10s 5d; do club 10s 4d@10s 10d; red winter 9s 8d@10s. Flour 22s@24s. Corn—Old 28s; new 26s@26s6d. Oats 34s@37s. Barley 35s. Peas 39s. Lard 61s. Cheese 62s. Turpentine 28s. Tallow 49s6d.

Memphis.

MEMPHIS, March 20.—Cotton firm at 12¼c. Flour firm and unchanged. Corn steady at 52@56c. Oats quiet at 46@50c. Bulk meats steady at 9½@12¾@12¾c. Lard dull at 13¾@ 14½c.

Oswego.

OSWEGO, March 20.—Wheat steady: No. 1 Milwaukee club $1 39. Corn dull; Western mixed, new, 64½c. Barley quiet; No. 2 Canada offered at 99½c.

COTTON.

New York.

NEW YORK, March 20.—Cotton quiet at 12 31-32 @12¾c. Futures closed steady: March 13¼@ 13 3-32c; April 13 3-32@13 5-16c; May 13¾@13¾@ 13 31-32c; July 14 3-32@14¼c; August 14¼@ 14 9-32c.

Liverpool.

LIVERPOOL, March 20.—Cotton firmer at 6 7-16@6¾d. Sales of 15,000 bales, including 3,000 for speculation and export and 9,400 American.

DRY GOODS.

New York.

NEW YORK, March 20.—Business was moderate with commission houses and importers and the jobbing trade was more active. Cotton goods in steady demand at generally unchanged prices. Ginghams and Pearl river tickings reduced by agents. Prints in moderate demand from first hands and active with jobbers at irregular prices. Woolens in steady demand. Woolen goods quiet. Foreign goods dull.

MARINE INTELLIGENCE.

MOVEMENTS OF OCEAN STEAMERS.

DATE OF DEPARTURE FROM NEW YORK.

Wisconsin	March 21....Liverpool
Abyssinia	March 22....Liverpool
State of Virginia	March 23....Glasgow
Adriatic	March 25....Liverpool
City of Paris	March 25....Liverpool
Navarino	March 25....Hull
Mosel	March 25....Bremen
Germania	March 28....Hamburg
Herder	March 28....Hamburg
Montana	March 28....Liverpool
Wieland	March 30....Hamburg

FROM PHILADELPHIA.

Illinois	March 23....Liverpool
Wesley	March 30....Liverpool
City of Bristol	March 30....Liverpool

FROM BOSTON.

Atlas	March 25....Liverpool

RIVER TELEGRAMS.

OFFICE OF THE OBSERVER, UNITED STATES SIGNAL SERVICE, PITTSBURGH, PA., March 20, 1876.

The following is the daily report of the stage of water, with changes in the twenty-four hours ending at 5 P. M.

STATIONS.	ABOVE L'W'R	CHANGE DURING—		CONDITION OF	STATE OF WEATHER.
	Ft.	In.	Ft.	In.	
Cairo	35	6	+1	0	N. W. Cloudy.
Cincinnati	30	10	+1	0	N. W. Clear.

CITY MATTERS.

For eighty-five cents per month the DAILY COMMERCIAL will be mailed to travelers or to subscribers who are temporarily absent from Pittsburgh. The address of the paper will be changed as often as is desired.

Local Observations.

OFFICE OF THE OBSERVER, U. S. SIG. SERV., Room 23, First National Bank Building, PITTSBURGH, PA., March 20, 1876.

Time.	Bar.	Th'r.	Hum	Dir., W'nd.	Force.	Weath.
7 A. M.	30 048	28	78	S. E.	Fresh.	Cloudy
2 P. M.	29 903	38	88	E.	Fresh.	Lsnow
9 P. M.	29 453	30	100	S. E.	Gentle	Hsnow

Mean barometer...19.653. Highest thermom....31
Mean thermom.... 28.5. Lowest thermom....22
Rainfall..... .07

We Have Added

blue grass and orchard grass to our seeds in stock, and now offer the trade clover, timothy, Mammoth or English clover, Kentucky blue grass and orchard grass at lowest market rates. ALLEN KIRKPATRICK & CO.

Held for Trial.

The three rogues, Albert Swinehart, Ed. Haney and John Rice, who were arrested in this city last Friday by the Allegheny detectives, had a hearing yesterday afternoon before Mayor Phillips, which resulted in the holding of the trio for trial. Bail in $4,000 each was demanded, and in default they were committed. There are four informations for larceny against these fellows:

Cruelty in Transportation of Cattle.

Alderman Irwin yesterday gave judgment in ten dollars and costs in the case of the Humane Society vs. E. W. Wilcox, charged with cruelty to animals, in not providing rest, food and water to cattle in transportation east. The fine was paid under protest, and we are informed that Morris & Waixel, the stock dealers, have employed Messrs. Hampton & Dalzell and will take the case to court. It is said they announced that they would spare no money to beat the society. The Humane Society have not much money, but they will have the sympathy of the community in the cause.

Disorderly in an Omnibus.

Yesterday afternoon at about 5½ o'clock, as Mr. Morton, the sewing machine man, was going out on a Penn avenue omnibus with two ladies, a man named John Black, who was accompanied by a woman named Mrs. Flora Eagley, lighted a cigar and commenced smoking. Mr. Morton remonstrated, when both Black and Mrs. Eagley commenced swearing and using abusive language. Morton got the first policeman he saw to arrest them, and at the evening hearing Deputy Mayor Lowry fined them $25 and costs each. The woman paid her fine, but Black is still in durance vile.

The High School Investigation.

The Committee on High School, of the Central Board of Education, met again last evening to pursue their investigation of the charges against the management of the Commercial Department of the High School. The committee declined to admit reporters. It was learned, however, that their action was favorable to sustaining the report of the Visiting Committee. Their report complained that the efficiency of the Commercial Department was impaired first by removing the control of the department from Prof. Cochran, and this objection will be removed by giving Bartlett instructor as full control as he had formerly. The second objection was urged against the action of the Board in refusing to admit pupils to the department at four stated times during the year, and this will be removed by the admission of pupils hereafter at any time they may pass the examination provided. The third complaint was against abolishing the weekly lectures on commercial law, and this evil will be remedied by reinstituting the lectures.

The Convention To-day.

The Republican County Convention, composed of delegates chosen on Saturday last, will meet in Room No. 2 of Common Pleas Court No. 2 under the following call from the Executive Committee adopted at the meeting held on the 11th inst:

Resolved, That the Republicans of Allegheny county be requested to meet in their respective election districts on Saturday, the 18th inst., between four and seven P. M., and choose one delegate from each district (except such districts as are entitled to more than one under the call for the conventions of last year) to a county convention to be held at the Court House on Tuesday, the 21st inst., at ten o'clock A. M., to elect delegates to the Republican State Convention from the several Senatorial and Representative districts.

The delegates from the Forty-second Senatorial district, composed of the city of Allegheny, the boroughs of Bellevue, Killbuck and Ohio townships, will elect one Senatorial delegate.

Those from the Forty-third district, composed of the First to the Fifteenth wards, and the Twenty-third ward, will elect one Senatorial delegate.

Those from the Forty-fourth district, composed of the Sixteenth to the Twenty-second wards of Pittsburgh, and all the townships and boroughs between the rivers and those north or the Allegheny and Ohio, except those in the Forty-second district, will elect one Senatorial delegate.

Those in the Forty-fifth district, consisting of all the wards, boroughs and town-ships on the South Side, will elect one Senatorial delegate.

The delegates from the city of Allegheny will elect three representative delegates.

Those from the First to the Fourth and Sixth to the Eighth wards of Pittsburgh will elect two representative delegates.

Those from the Fifth, Ninth, Tenth and Twelfth wards of Pittsburgh will elect one representative delegate. Those from the remaining wards of Pittsburgh will elect four representative delegates.

Those from the townships and boroughs north and between the rivers will elect two representative delegates. Those from the townships and boroughs south of the rivers will elect two representative delegates.

The delegates will meet in one convention to organize, and credentials and titles then call the roll for each Senatorial and Representative district successively.

COURT PROCEEDINGS.

United States District Court—Judge McCandless.

The jury in the case of Mr. Britton, distiller, yesterday morning returned a verdict of not guilty on the first and second counts, and guilty on the third count, which charges the defendant with distilling, defrauding and attempting to defraud the United States of taxes, Three of the jurors, Allan T. Tate, Joseph McLean, A. W. Criswell, stood out on the verdict under protest. Mr. Carnahan moved that the jurors who answered "guilty under protest," be interrogated as to what they mean by *protest*, when upon the Court made the following order:

"The verdict having been recorded and the Court having said to the jury that they could retire from the bar, the Court refuses the motion of Mr. Carnahan."

Mr. Carnahan moved for a new trial for the following reasons:

First—The verdict is against the evidence.

Second—The jurors were allowed to separate and and return a sealed verdict without defendant's consent.

Third—The sealed verdict was materially modified by the answer of the jurors when polled, three of them answering "guilty under protest," which is no verdict.

Fourth—The Court refuses to interrogate the jurors as to what they meant by "under protest," although none of the jury had retired from the box.

Fifth—The Court refused to send the jury back to deliberate after it appeared that the sealed verdict was modified by the answers of the jurors when polled.

Sixth—E. E. DeLong, a Deputy United States Marshal of this district, sat on the jury, which is contrary to law.

Sickness of some of the jurors is said to be the cause of the protest.

Common Pleas No. 1—Judges Stowe and Collier.

Executors of Anna H. Irwin vs. city of Pittsburgh. Verdict for plaintiff for $1,880 50.

John Meyer, for use of Henry Meyer, vs. Frank Kohne; action on a promissory note. Verdict for plaintiff, $1,053.

Francis Kennedy and Johanna Kennedy vs. Michael McSwigan, Daniel McSwigan, Barr, executors of the estate of James McCabe, deceased; action for wages as a nurse. Compulsory nonsuit entered.

Philip Peiffer vs. John Hare and Antonia Erney. Plaintiff took a non-suit.

J. W. Carnahan vs. Wm. Nicholson. Auditor's report confirmed absolutely.

Germania Sick Relief Society vs. I. D Brecht. On trial.

Sadie A. Dunbar, executrix, vs. N. S. Coulter. On trial.

TRIAL LIST FOR TO-DAY.

Carothers vs. Nesbit; Taylor vs. Smith; Pinkerton vs. Torrens; Hutchinson vs. Brown; Hays vs. Hutchinson; Wilson vs. Stevenson; Gagher vs. Negley; Sipe vs. Volk; Felton vs. Frazier; Lattimer vs. Hope; Lindner vs. Kurtzdorfer; Bates vs. Howard; McClelland vs. Commercial Printing Company; Roads vs. McFadden; Rafferty vs. Spear.

Common Pleas No. 2—Judges Ewing and White.

Michael Craver vs. Peter Reisesk; an equity proceeding. A decree was entered restraining defendant from conveying, selling, assigning or otherwise disposing of the accounts, moneys, assets and property, late of the Pittsburgh Safe Company, now in the hands of Micky Graver, its successor, until the further order of the Court.

Isaac Crown and wife vs. Henry Sellers, Stewart McKee and Wm. B. Barton; action to recover for damages to property by reason of the grading of property adjoining. On trial.

Mrs. Mary McManus vs. John Coyle, a nonresident, represented by his counsel, Hon. Phoenix Gallagher; action to recover for boarding. Verdict for plaintiff for $629 10.

James Davis, for use of James McCandless, vs. Pittsburgh Insurance Company, of Pittsburgh; action on a fire insurance policy. On trial.

TRIAL LIST FOR TO-DAY.

Kroeger vs. Birmingham Fire Insurance Co., Davis vs. Cash Insurance Co., Pittsburgh Wagon Works vs. McGilvery; Livinston vs. Consolidated Coal Co.; Gotting, administrator, vs. Mellon, administrator; Eaton & Co. vs. Keefer; Dawson vs. Woods; McGrady vs. Fow-ler & Steel; Miller & Co. vs. Gaines; Wagner & Co. vs. Rosenberg & Co. vs. Niccois & Shaw.

Quarter Sessions—Judge Kirkpatrick.

On motion of the District Attorney an information was issued by J. J. Hays against Andrew Gross, charging him with administering poison with intent to murder. Gross was quashed, as another information for the same offence is now pending in court. The defendant is the party who carried the poison to the jail some weeks since.

In two cases against Minerva Black, indicted for assault and battery on oath of Martha McCombs and Eilen Bradburn, the defendant was acquitted and the prosecutors were divided.

Commonwealth vs. Ellen Bradburn, indicted for assault and battery on oath of John Black. Not pros allowed.

Commonwealth vs. Mary Wilson, *alias* Mary Ann Duggan, charged with forgery on four indictments. Defendant pleaded guilty to one indictment and was found guilty on the three others. On each indictment the defendant was sentenced to the Penitentiary for two years, making eight in all. The prisoner is a well-known character, who has been playing the basket game about the city lately quite extensively. She carried a large basket with her, and deposited in it and carried off everything valuable that she could lay her hands on.

James Boyle, indicted for larceny and receiving stolen goods, on oath of Wm. Price, was convicted of receiving stolen goods, but recommended to the mercy of the Court. He was sentenced one year to the Workhouse.

John Shaughnessy, indicted for felonious assault and battery on oath of Mary Harrington, and convicted of simple assault and battery, was sentenced to pay a fine of fifty dollars and costs, and to undergo ten days imprisonment in jail.

Charles Wilson, *alias* Mike Martin, *alias* Harry Graham, pleaded *nolo contendere* to one indictment for larceny, charged by Henry Gerst, and guilty to another charge of larceny preferred by F. Loppert. He begged not to be sent to the Penitentiary, and the court sentenced him eighteen months to the Workhouse on each, making three years in all.

Mary Beika was acquitted of a charge of assault and battery, and the costs divided between her and the prosecutor, O. Diedricks.

THE INVESTIGATION

Judge Mellon on "Rings."

A Defiant Witness.

He Refuses to Testify and is Prosecuted for Misdemeanor—He Refuses to Give Bail and is Committed for Trial—Adjournment to March 28th.

The House Committee resumed their search for "bottom facts" yesterday morning at ten o'clock. There was a slim attendance, and it was noticed that Judge Mellon was not in his accustomed place. An hour was spent as if the committee were "waiting for something to turn up." It was nearly eleven o'clock when Chairman Carson called the committee to order.

Mr. Robb stated that some of the important witnesses subpœnaed had not responded. He desired to commence this morning with the testimony of ex-Controller M'Gowan, and then proceed with the important branch of the case to its close. The testimony of the witnesses present would be merely cumulative. He suggested that as the committee would not be present this afternoon, that if Mr. C. B. M. Smith had any testimony to offer in defense that he might be allowed to proceed.

Mr. Smith said that the parties he represented did not desireto offer any testimony until the parties on the other side had finally concluded.

Chairman Carson—I understood that Mr. Wm. Smith and Mr. H. Smith desired to be placed on the stand.

C. B. M. Smith—Yes, sir. I represent Messrs. Smith & Sons, and it is not their desire to appear on the stand until all the evidence on the other side is finished.

Judge Mellon at this juncture came in and took a seat among the spectators.

ABOUT RINGS.

Mr. Smith stated that if the privilege was accorded he would ask Judge Mellon to make an explanation of the arrow which he let fly as a parting shot on Saturday afternoon. The Judge had spoken of a city ring. As a taxpayer, he (the speaker) wanted to know if there was such a thing as a city ring. He was a taxpayer, and his taxes were onerous, and if the money had been improperly expended he wanted to know it. He did not desire to throw any obstacles in the way of a legitimate investigation. He conceived that the only question which the committee had to consider was whether the Legislature should grant the privilege to the city of issuing bonds to the amount of $3,000,000 to complete the water works.

Mr. Robb referred to the object of the investigation, and contended that the testimony thus far was entirely relevant. It was intended to show that vast sums of money had already been expended either fraudulently or through incompetent persons. He argued that the city had already reached the constitutional limit of her indebtedness, and that the Legislature had no authority to pass the bill now pending.

C. B. M. Smith—I have no desire to waive this point. I simply desire Judge Mellon to state such facts as may be in his possession in relation to the existence of a ring. I do not wish mere rumors.

EVIDENCES OF RING RULE.

Judge Mellon—I will state a fact that Mr. Smith knows; a ring is not a visible or tangible thing when you speak of it in connection with city government; you can only judge of it by its results. I don't think Mr. Smith a ring man. The reason I think there is a ring is that we are enterprises costing upwards of $4,000,000 which should not have cost more than $2,000,000; I see upward of $4,000,000 spent in widening avenues, and the city officials defending those expenditures and desiring to go on with like expenditures; I am consequently led to believe that there must be some cohesiveness. The plan of making assessments, emanating from City Hall, is another evidence to my mind of the existence of some organization. The investigation into the manner of expending money accruing from water and Penn avenue bonds seemed to be a legitimate course, but as soon as the investigations commenced articles appear in the city press, apparently emanating from City Hall, that the city officials become excited. These facts are indications of a cohesiveness or of a ring, and while I am willing to pursue, I am not sure such an organization is in existence. The testimony adduced is for the purpose of showing that it is not prudent to take more bonds; that the property cannot stand it, and that it will not be legal to issue more bonds. The determination to prevent this investigation is the strongest proof of the existence of a ring; if there is not, then there is no difference to organization; it is merely an *esprit du corps;* true there is a certain class of citizens desirous to be retained in their position; I do not blame the ring if the power is left with them; but I believe the whole trouble centers in Council; I blame citizens for not attending to their own interests.

Mr. Smith, having failed to get any facts from the Judge as to the existence of a ring, did not press the matter further.

MORE WITNESSES WANTED.

Mr. Smith then handed to the chairman a list of witnesses, which he desired to have subpœnaed, which the Chair stated would be considered by the committee.

Mr. Robb also presented a list, and said if the parties refused to obey he would insist on the infliction of the severest penalty against the recusant parties and having them indicted.

Chairman Carson—The committee will attend to that matter.

Judge Mellon—All the delay and irregularity has been occasioned by the failure of witnesses to obey the summons of the committee.

Chairman Carson—Mr. J. Vannote, of the *Gazette*, and Thomas McConnell, of the *Telegraph*, have both been summoned twice and they are not here yet.

The committee then adjourned for private consultation to decide when the investigation should be resumed.

A DEFIANT WITNESS.

The committee returned to the Council chamber in a few moments, Sergeant-at-Arms Ketterling bringing with him Mr. C. B. Mellon, late bookkeeper for Wm. Smith & Sons, of the National Pipe Foundry.

The committee was again called to order and Chairman Carson said: "Mr. Henne, will you be sworn?"

Mr. Henne—No, sir, I will not.

Chairman Carson—I tell you not be sworn?

Mr. Henne—Because I do not recognize the authority of the committee: besides I have been released until next Tuesday.

Mr. Robb—Who released you?

Mr. Henne—The same party who said he had subpœnaed me. Mr. Carson, of the committee, was present at the time I was released.

Mr. Robb—Did you recognize the binding force of the subpœna until next Tuesday?

Mr. Henne—No, sir, I did not. I did not ask to be released. I was told I was released until next Tuesday by the party who had subpœnaed me.

Mr. Robb—Did you consent to come next Tuesday?

Mr. Henne—No, I refused; I didn't bother my head about the matter; if I had known that the committee was in session I should have refused to appear; am not positive that I will appear next Tuesday.

Mr. Robb—Mr. Chairman, Mr. Henne seems to think he has been released by the Chair today. If he is subpœnaed now there will be no mistake about it, and if he refuses to appear when the committee meets again, you will know what action to take. The act of Assembly is very explicit, and makes the refusal on the part of any witness to obey the summons of the committee a misdemeanor punishable by fine and imprisonment.

Mr. Henne—Before proceeding further, I would ask whether the courts have any jurisdiction over the matter now?

Mr. Robb—The courts can do nothing until an information has been made.

Chairman Carson—The witness has already refused to obey the summons. Why not test the matter now?

Mr. Henne—I think the committee has no power to compel me.

Mr. Robb—Well, I merely made a suggestion as far the committee to decide.

C. B. M. Smith—Mr. Chairman, has not the committee adjourned?

Chairman Carson—Mr Smith, the committee is not asking advice now. They will deal with the matter themselves.

Mr. Smith—Yes sir. Well, all right!

Mr. Swan—Mr. Robb, if a new subpœna was served on the gentleman, would it be legal?

Mr. Robb—Certainly it would.

A NEW SUBPŒNA.

Chairman Carson then wrote out a new subpœna, and handing it to Sergeant-at-Arms Ketterling, the latter served it on Mr. Henne.

Chairman—Mr. Henne, will you be sworn, now?

Mr. Henne—No, sir; I will not.

Sergeant-at-Arms Ketterling—He refuses to recognize the authority of the committee.

A CONSULTATION AND ITS RESULT.

The contumaciousness of the witness necessitated a consultation among the members of the committee, after which Mr. Miller moved that measures be taken forthwith to test the powers of the committee. This was adopted.

Chairman (a son—Mr. Kettering, you are instructed by the committee to make information against Mr. McCarthy, charging Mr. A. Henne with refusing to obey a subpœna issued by this committee.

The Sergeant-at-Arms retired to make the information, and the Chairman announced that the investigation would not be resumed until Tuesday morning of next week.

It was announced that the committee would hold a private session, at half-past two o'clock, in the City Clerk's office.

HENNE'S CASE.

Mr. Ketterling, by order of the committee, appeared before the Mayor, and made an information against A. Henne for misdemeanor, under the act of March 14, 1872, for refusing to testify before the Legislative Committee. He was subsequently arrested, and when asked what he intended to do, replied that he would not testify. The Mayor ordered him to give bail in $2,000, which he declined to do, and was committed to jail in default. It is understood that he will be brought before court on the first Monday in April, and the power of the committee squarely raised. There is an impression that the new Constitution indirectly repeals the act above cited. In other words, that a witness cannot be compelled to testify unless the Legislature passes a law for the payment of his fee; that there is no authority in the Legislature to spend a dollar which it has not previously appropriated, and that there is no appropriation made whereby witnesses in this case can receive compensation. The information creating this committee expressly stipulates that the State will not be responsible for any expense incurred. The belief is that Henne is acting under competent legal advice, but whether in the interest of Smith & Sons, or some person else, is not certainly known.

ANOTHER MEETING AND ITS RESULT.

The committee reassembled at half-past two o'clock, in the City Clerk's office, when Chairman Carson stated that they would call one witness [understood to be a Mr. Chronicler.]

Mr. Smith protested against the proceeding, as he did not know what the witness would testify to, and his clients, the Messrs. Smith, were not present.

Mr. Carson said the witness could be called again, for cross-examination, and his testimony could do no harm then.

Mr. Smith protested that the committee had already adjourned until Tuesday week, and that the witness would not be examined unless Mr. Smith was present.

Mr. Carson said the witness was a working man, and did not like to lose another day. He had given both sides notice, as well as the reporters, and their testimony would be faithfully taken down, so that Mr. Smith could cross-examine at another time.

Mr. Smith appealed to Mr. Robb, and to the members of the committee, not to force this thing.

Mr. O'Neill cut the matter short by moving that no further testimony be heard to-day. The motion was seconded by Mr. Swan and adopted.

The committee stands adjourned until the 28th instant.

Mind and Medicine.

Dr. J. B. McClelland, of this city, addresses the Legislature this evening upon the subject "The Mind in Relation to Medicine." We believe the object sought is to show the advantages of homœopathy in the treatment of mental diseases, and the justice of providing an asylum in which this method of treatment may be practiced.

PITTSBURGH M. E. CONFERENCE.

The Proceedings of Saturday, Sunday and Monday.

Saturday afternoon the Conference temperance meeting was held, Dr. R. T. Taylor, President of Beaver College, presiding. Most excellent addresses were made by Rev. J. H. Rodgers, of Pittsburgh, Rev. A. B. Leonard, Cincinnati, and Mr. Chance, known as the "Buckeye Broad Ax."

At night the church was crowded to excess to enjoy the anniversary of the Church Extension Society, Rev. J. W. Baker, of Pittsburgh (South Side) presiding. Capital addresses were delivered by Rev. T. C. Iliff, of the Rocky Mountain Conference, and Chaplain McCabe, Assistant Corresponding Secretary of the Church Extension Board. The chaplain sung several stirring songs in his inimitable style. A collection was secured of about $200.

Sunday most of the pulpits of the place were occupied by the ministers of the Conference. At the seat of the Conference (First M. E. Church) the services opened at nine o'clock with the usual Conference Love Feast, in charge of the veteran Rev. R. Hopkins, of Sewickley, Pa., who has been connected with this Conference over fifty years. In his opening remarks he gave some touching reminiscences. Eighteen ministers related their religious experience, mostly the "fathers" of the body. At intervals tender songs gave melody to the occasion. It is a rare thing to hear such a body of ministers as are found in a Methodist Conference. Most of the ministers have obeyed Mr. Wesley's injunction, to learn to sing, and to sing with the spirit and the understanding."

At half-past ten o'clock, Bishop Haven occupied the pulpit and preached a powerful discourse upon "The Power of Christianity." The sermon was scholarly in style, chaste in language, teeming full of sturdy thoughts, forcible and spiritual. At the close he ordained, assisted by Bishop Merrill, to Deacons Orders the class of twelve young ministers.

In the afternoon, the ordination to (twelve) Elders Orders was preceded by an able, interesting, spiritual sermon by the learned Rev. Dr. C. H. Payne, President of the Ohio Wesleyan University, upon a "Special Providence." Bishop Haven then proceeded to the solemn work of ordaining the Elders. He was assisted by nine ministers with the "laying on of hands" on the heads of each candidate, Revs. T. M. Hudson, S. H. Nesbit, J. Horner, W. Cox, S. M. Vernon, J. M. Carr, R. Hamilton, S. Burt and W. H. Kincaid. Rev. W. Lynch read the Scripture lesson of the Ritual for Ordination Services.

At night a vast audience was present at the Missionary Anniversary. The officers occupied seats on the platform, namely: President, Rev. W. F. Lauck; Vice Presidents, Revs. W. H. Kincaid, N. J. Walker, E. Hughes; Secretary, Rev. J. M. Carr; Treasurer, Dr. J. Horner.

After singing and prayer by Rev. Dr. Wm. Hunter, editor of the Pittsburgh *Christian Advocate*, the Secretary presented in detail the contributions by districts of this Conference to the missionary cause, shown in a total of $21,171 65. Appropriate and eloquent addresses were made by Rev. Dr. T. J. Scott, Missionary to India, Dr. C. H. Payne, Chaplain McCabe and Bishop Haven. Over $1,000 were raised in the meeting, resolutions were solicited in aid of church extension and about $300 was secured. This amount, and the $200 collected Saturday evening, and the generous gift of C. Aultman, Esq., of Canton, of $500, thus far, make a total of more than $1,000 thousand dollars appropriated to aid the new and beautiful Episcopal Church at Salt Lake City, Utah. This is a pet object of Chaplain McCabe and Bishop Haven. Both have evidently set their hearts upon aiding in securing very many thousands of dollars for it. It is a large and elegant structure right in the midst of the Mormon. The singing of Chaplain McCabe, "Conference Trio," Revs. A. Darling, S. H. Miller and Dr. Scott, and Dr. T. J. Scott, in the language of India, added to the interest of the occasion. The new officers are as follows: President, Rev. J. M. Carr; Vice Presidents, W. P. Blackburn, J. Tonner and Dr. T. J. Scott; Secretary, Rev. J. M. Carr; Treasurer, Dr. J. Horner.

Conference met Monday at 9 o'clock, presided over by Secretary Carr. Appointments of various committees, under the direction of Rev. Alexander Scott.

Up to the opening on Monday morning's session action was taken upon the following reports:

The Committee on Tract Cause reported favorably on the prosecution of this work and recommended the adoption of the following:

Resolved, That we will use more diligence in faithfully taking the collection provided for by the Discipline, and also in the circulation of tracts.

The report of the Committee on the Bible Cause commended the plan of the American Bible Society to raise a fund of $1,000,000 in the country, urging renewed efforts to support the society, and agreeing when agents of the society shall be issued to the Annual Conferences.

According to the report of W. Vankirk, Treasurer of the Centenary Board of the Pittsburgh Conference, there are invested for Allegheny College $40,000; the Biblical Institute; it is merely an *esprit du corps;* true there is a certain class of citizens desirous to be retained in their position; I do not blame the ring if the power is left with them; but I believe the whole trouble centers in Council; I blame citizens for not attending to their own interests.

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ANOTHER MEETING AND ITS RESULT.

The committee reassembled at half-past two o'clock, in the City Clerk's office, when Chairman Carson stated that they would call one witness [understood to be a Mr. Chronicler.]

Mr. Smith protested against the proceeding, as he did not know what the witness would testify to, and his clients, the Messrs. Smith, were not present.

Mr. Carson said the witness could be called again, for cross-examination, and his testimony could do no harm then.

Mr. Smith protested that the committee had already adjourned until Tuesday week, and that the witness would not be examined unless Mr. Smith was present.

Mr. Carson said the witness was a working man, and did not like to lose another day. He had given both sides notice, as well as the reporters, and their testimony would be faithfully taken down, so that Mr. Smith could cross-examine at another time.

Mr. Smith appealed to Mr. Robb, and to the members of the committee, not to force this thing.

Mr. O'Neill cut the matter short by moving that no further testimony be heard to-day. The motion was seconded by Mr. Swan and adopted.

The committee stands adjourned until the 28th instant.

Mind and Medicine.

Dr. J. B. McClelland, of this city, addresses the Legislature this evening upon the subject "The Mind in Relation to Medicine." We believe the object sought is to show the advantages of homœopathy in the treatment of mental diseases, and the justice of providing an asylum in which this method of treatment may be practiced.

CITY MATTERS IN BRIEF.

ARCHBISHOP Wood left for Philadelphia yesterday at noon.

GENERAL KILPATRICK was in the city yesterday, and left via the West Penn Railroad on a lecturing tour in the oil regions.

WM. G. MURPHY has been elected Second Lieutenant of the Jefferson Cavalry. The organization now numbers fifty-two men.

CHARLES URNBRAFF and Isaac Ore, arrested for burglarizing the store of Michael Fauss, in Lawrenceville, were held for trial yesterday.

RESIDENTS of the East End complain of the bad condition of the boardwalk on Station street, between Larimer and Frankston avenues.

THE Armenia Insurance Company of this city has a risk of $2,500 on the Westend Cotton Mills, Philadelphia, burned on Saturday morning.

JAMES M. MACRUM, Esq., Librarian, has our thanks for a copy of the twenty-eighth annual report of the Young Men's Mercantile Library.

THE Allegheny Council Committees on Ordinances and Wooden Buildings met last evening, but neither body transacted any business worthy of note.

SUSIE BROWN, proprietress of the disorderly house on Logan street which was raided by Lieutenant Tyre Sunday night, was fined $100 or sixty days to the Workhouse.

REV. C. F. BOOTH, pastor of Christ (Methodist) Church, this city, occupied the pulpit of the First Methodist Church, Cleveland, on Sunday morning and evening.

HARRY JOHNSTON, son of Mr. William Johnston, a farmer, on the West Penn road, below Turtle Creek, fell from a hayrack on Sunday night and sustained serious injuries.

FATHER SLACK and "ye big quire" will participate in the song service which will be held on Street Baptist Church, Allegheny, this evening. Benefit of the Mission School.

GEORGE PETERMAN has filed a bill in equity against the Lawerenceville and Evergreen Railway Company, to restrain them from the wrongful appropriation of a piece of his land, in Ross township.

MR. S. A. LAUGHNER, of Allegheny, while passing through West Park yesterday morning, shortly after midnight, was attacked by a highwayman, the "savior of the Copperas." A feast was called, and Clymer was set up as the golden calf to be worshipped, and, as at Belshazzar's feasts, the nobles of the party were called in, and wine and mockery were the order of the feast; but in the midst of their revelry a click was heard, and in it they heard their doom. What is this that had brought such sudden pallor on the face of every one in the party, and why have the knees of the guests so suddenly given way? In a sepulchral tone some one said, *news from New Hampshire!* The room in which the feast was held looked like the valley of which Ezekiel wrote, for there was a shaking among the dry bones.

One man who had not heard the news came into the room, slapped a brother on the back and said "Bully for Clymer; he made a good start when he brought Belknap;" but the brother said, "D—n Clymer, he shot too high, for in killing Belknap he shot so high that the shell exploded in our own camp, killed all our candidates for President, and exploded our magazine and all our powder is gone." It was finally concluded that it was much easier to lay a torpedo and touch it off than to know just how much powder to put in, so that it would kill only our foes; but this one would say himself, "Some people are always on a rush. I could just as well have waited two or three days longer, but, then, Hiest says dig out, and dig I must."

There is no use disguising the fact that the Democrats are a badly disgusted set of fellows. They expected to unearth such frauds as would make darkness black. They expected to find nothing anything which amounts to anything so far as frauds on the Government are concerned, for remember the Belknap frauds were not against the Government. The Republicans have been in power fifteen years. During that time it has saved the Union and had a great war on its hands. To wage this war immense amounts of money had to be expended, which brought a great many adventurers into the party, who thought they could swindle the Government with impunity, and the people and the Republicans had settled the war, they went to work and brought thieves to justice, and with such a flourish of trumpets and unrelenting exercise of justice that the Republican war cry, "Let no guilty man escape," has become a part of the literature of the day, so that there is little left for the buzzards of the Democratic party to do, only to act as scavengers and pick up the few carcasses left on the field. In my opinion the Democrats had counted on what they would continue the investigations they would find Democrats at the bottom, and then use them, which, in view of developments as to my prophecy. What a nicely laid scheme! Through an accident they discovered the infamy of Belknap. The witness was allowed to escape, and nothing was done to detain Belknap. They wanted him to go too, and then send up a howl that the Republicans had defended him. They never thought they were smart, but in the Treasury Department you find two men—the Chief of the United States Secret Service and the assistant secretary at war, in intelligence, and their game is spoiled. Grant had said "Let no guilty man escape," the Republicans in Congress echoed the cry, and Republicans and Democrats say Amen, and with two such men as those mentioned on the track of an evildoer, the scheme of the Democrats to head off the investigation was nipped in the bud. The Republican party has been cleaning out its house for several years, and it is to that party the people will have to look for the completion of the work.

Is it not strange that the Democrats were afraid to send any of the *chevalrie* orators of the party to the South to raise funds for them the people there? They sent Gov. Walker, another sycophant, who has no other qualifications as a fund raiser than about six feet of physically well made. He was elected Governor of Virginia in 1869 as a Conservative by Republican votes, on the ground that he was opposed to the Radical Republican Administration, but as soon as inaugurated, on the promise by the freeaters that they would have him nominated for President before the Democratic ticket in 1872 for Vice President, he violated his pledge and became the pliant tool of the most desperate cut-throats.

Politically, matters look well in Philadelphia, and if wise counsels prevail in the party, and our leaders show themselves capable the emergency by nominating a man for President who has the entire confidence of the honest portion of the party, this city will give the largest Republican majority it has ever given by twenty-five per cent.; and next fall that decayed and putrid body, the Democratic party, which has so long been a stench in the nostrils of every loyal man, will be buried so deep that even a rebel war whoop won't make it wiggle.

Matters pertaining to the big show are progressing finely. Orders from foreign countries are pouring in at an unexpected and overwhelming rate. All the nations of the earth seem to be on the *qui vive*, and ready to contribute something of especially or instrumentally. The proceeds go to the fund of the Society for the improvement of the poor, and, it is to be hoped, will swell up to a considerable sum.

Caucasian Tooth Powder.

Prepared from Dr. Spencer's Formula, warranted purely vegetable, and to be the best in the market. Recommended by the editors of this paper. Try a box. For sale at 254 Penn avenue.

STATE NEWS.

Allentown is to have a fire alarm telegraph.

The counsel of Lennahan, who murdered Captain Riley in Wilkesbarre eighteen months ago, who was captured in Ottawa-Illinois, last November, and who was convicted of murder in the first degree and was sentenced to death January 29, have secured a delay of twelve months, the case having been carried to the Supreme Court.

The Philadelphia *Daily Item*, Col. Fitzgerald's paper, is to be doubled in size, in order to accommodate the rush of advertisers who seek to reach the public through its columns. The *Item* is one of the most enterprising journalists in the country, and is reaping substantial benefits from his investment of tact and capital.

An unparalleled case of cruelty to animals is being tried in the Erie County Court. It seems that the defendant, who resides near Erie, in trying to manage a mulish horse, fastened a rain in the lower jaw and hitching another horse to the chain pulled the jaw entirely off. Such a brute should be prosecuted to the full extent of the law.

Samuel H. Culver, of Williamsport, drove a